



*St Martin's
Church
Suez Road,
1964*

242.61

Cambridge CHURCHES Chronicle by Mike Petty

c.83: churches

This is a section from A Cambridge Chronicle.

1885

Cambridge Salvation Army's earliest days, 50 years ago were recalled by the Mayor, Ald Ralph Starr. He told how a band from Liverpool had come to give them a send-off: "I remember seeing them go down King Street, a singing multitude of people thronging around the band, who were trying to play, and some lads and lasses marching behind. The crowd were not only hustling and pushing them but dealing out blows to those who were playing. Several bandsmen had blood on their faces, but they did not retaliate. It was that which affected me most", he said. 35 04 29

1888

Jewish congregation founded

1888

St Barnabas Church built

1889 01 04

St Barnabas made an Ecclesiastical Parish [2.3]

1889 06 15

St Philip's Church foundation stone [1.12]

1889 10 11
Church Congress held [3.18]

1890

1890 05 01
St Philip's Church dedicated for expanding Romsey Town [3.7]

1890 05 22
St Columba's Presbyterian Church opened [3.8]

1890 10 08
Church of Our Lady & the English Martyrs consecrated [4.9]

1891
St John's Church: first meeting re church in New Cherry Hinton [7.9]

1891
Methodist Mission Chapel Hemingford Road [13.8]

1892
Holy Sepulchre vestry built [9.1]

1894
Hobson Street Methodist chapel rebuilt [13.6]

1894
Friends Meeting House built [2.22]

1896
St Matthews clock tower erected in memory vicar's wife [7.7]

1896 12 15
St Johns Church chancel & nave consecrated [1.7, 7.9]

1897 09 25
Holy Trinity reopens [1.11]

1897
Hills Road Methodist Chapel reopened [1.1]

1897
Tenison Road Baptist Chapel opened replacing Hope Chapel, Paradise Street [2.7, 12.10]

1897 05 25
Yesterday afternoon a ceremony of the deepest import to the Presbyterian Church of England took place at Cambridge, when Mrs Lewis and Mrs Gibson jointly laid the foundation stone of the Westminster Theological College. A large number of people assembled on the site many of the visitors coming from a distance. The building will stand on the piece of ground between Madingley-road, Northampton-street and Pound-hill. The building is in the English Renaissance style 1897 05 25

1897 05 27
The foundation stone of the new building of St John's church, Hills Road, Cambridge, was successfully laid on the 4th May last year. The first section was completed and consecrated December 15th, 1896. The result of opening the new building has amply justified the decision to hasten the

commencement of the work. The congregations have been most encouraging and the average of the weekly collections doubled 1897 05 27

1897 06 28

St Andrews Chesterton new East window & reredos, 1897 06 28 p2 CDN

1897 07 01

Tenison Road chapel foundation stone, 1897 07 01 p2

1897 09 18

A special meeting was held in the Hills-road Wesleyan Chapel, Cambridge, in celebration of its re-opening. The chapel has been closed for three weeks and during that time the seats and galleries have been re-varnished, the walls and pillars painted, the heating apparatus renovated, the electric light substituted for gas, coloured windows for plain and a rostrum has been made to take the place of the old pulpit. Mr Isard, hon.sec. said those who worshipped in the side galleries had spoken to him for years past on the badness of the light. Those who sat just behind the gas standards too, found a great difficulty in seeing the speaker and were continually dazzled. They resolved to put in the electric light at a cost of about £60. The Minister said he was sorry they had not got the electric light on but in consequence of the engineers' strike the company had not been able to get the connections on 1897 09 18

1897 09 25

Holy Trinity church, Cambridge, was filled with a large congregation, the occasion being the re-opening service after the church had been closed for purposes of restoration. When the cement was removed from the buttresses, real solid stonework was found to be concealed underneath, and on these buttresses the date 1516 was discovered. An old consecration cross was also found by the architect. This cross, he says, is very unique and it is intended that it should be covered with glass in order to preserve it 1897 09 25

1898

St Edmunds House founded as hostel for future priests attending the University [5.5]

1898 04 13

Holy Trinity renovation of interior and enlarged electric lighting CDN 1898 04 13

1898 05 09

St Bene't's Church, Cambridge, reopened for public service with an improved organ and newly elected organ chamber, beside several minor renovations in the decoration of the interior of the building. Archdeacon Emery said that the condition of the Church in 1849, when he was ordained Deacon, with its organ Gallery at the West End, and those high pews in the nave, and green baized pews in the Chancel was then far different to what it was now. Since that time the South aisle had been erected, the West End and Tower opened and restored, the Chancel and church generally restored and seated in such a manner that all the worshippers could feel they formed one family of God 1898 05 09 [1,1]

1898 07 06

Mr Foster told a meeting in the parish room adjacent to St Mark's temporary Church, Newnham Croft, that he remembered hearing about 20 years ago, that it was seriously proposed that St Botolph's Church should be removed bodily and re-erected on the present site of Caius fellows' garden. The idea was not responded to and the consequence was that that part of Newnham was left without a place of worship, and eventually that Little St Mark's Church was erected. When he first came to that neighbourhood, 15 years ago, he remembered thinking what a poor, dilapidated place it was, and wondering how long they in that corner of Cambridge would have to worship there. But he had got to know St Mark's so well that he looked upon it now has a dear little place. They would all be sorry to

have it removed but it was only a temporary building, and temporary buildings must give way to permanent ones CDN 1898 07 06

1898 10 27

The population of the town of Cambridge has increased very much during the past 10 years, especially in the Petersfield and Romsey town area. Up till 10 years ago the chancel of the present St Barnabas Church was the only place of worship in the extensive district. Mainly by reason of the enterprise of Mr Sturton in providing land for building purposes, the district became so large that it became necessary to carry out the building of the complete Church; this was done in 1887. The substitution by the Great Eastern Railway Company of a handsome bridge for the old level crossing in Mill Road gave a great impetus to building in what is now Romsey town and the church of ease of St Phillip's was established. Now the time has come for Romsey town to be raised to the status of an ecclesiastical Parish, with St Phillip's as the parish church CDN 1898 10 27

1898 11 21

St Augustine's Church dedicated CDN 1898 11 21

1899

First Christian Science service held in Victoria Assembly Rooms [2.28]

1899 04 01

At midnight the new clock which has been erected at St Matthews Church, Cambridge, will chime for the first time. Until recently the bells of the church hung outside the building, but now a turret has been erected at the West End and here the clock has been placed. It is "Ting Tang" quarter clock erected as a memorial to the vicar's late wife 1899 04 01

1899 05 18

The new clergy training school in Jesus Lane Cambridge was opened by the Bishop of Durham. It has been erected adjacent to All Saints Church at a cost of nearly £8000. The most experienced teachers in Cambridge have long felt a want of a centre to which the younger members might naturally turn when they wished for conference, or counsel, or sympathy in reference to the choice of their vocation in life. Many men of ability were lost to the Ministry of the church through the want of such opportunities for brotherly conference with men nearly of their own age - 1899 05 18

1899 08 28

Victoria Road Congregational Church foundation stone laid, 1899 08 28, p3

1899 10 03

The Vicar of St Michael's church, Cambridge, spoke of the restoration of the mural decorations executed by Mr Gilbert Scott which had become much decayed, and the erection of the inside porch. The installation of the electric light answered very well. He did not think it was as good to read by as gas but there was the advantage of the easy regulation of the light and quickness in lighting the church. Instead of having the nasty, stuffy feeling they had with gas, there was a decent atmosphere in which one could breathe 1899 10 03

1899 10 17

The formal opening took place of Westminster College, the theological college which the Presbyterian Church of England has established at Cambridge for the training of students for the ministry. It is a great thing that the work has been done so well in so short a time, but a much greater thing that the cost of building it – albeit over £40,000 has all been met. Professor Ryle, President of Queens', extended a welcome to the new college 1899 10 17 [3.12]

1900

1900 02 28

The building which stands off St Andrew's street, Cambridge, and which has recently been erected through the munificence of Mrs Lewis & Mrs Gibson, members of the congregation of St Columba's Presbyterian Church was formally opened. The need for such a hall had long been felt and is undoubtedly one of the best buildings of the kind. It has cost no less than £2,000 & is lighted with electric light 00 02 28

1900 03 08

The first khaki wedding in Cambridge was held at St Botolph's church. The bride was attired in regulation khaki tight-fitting bodice, braided Hussar, with braid to match, khaki straw hat, trimmed with white chiffon and silk. She wore a spray of orange blossom and carried a bouquet of lilies of the valley and snowdrops, covered with maidenhair fern. The bridesmaids wore khaki shirts with silk tunics to match. They also wore scarlet shoes and hats 00 03 08

1900 04 14

On Good Friday the members of Trumpington Free Church held a tea meeting in their new place of worship in the village. To the tea about one hundred persons sat down. There was a small attendance at the subsequent meeting. The chairman said the building was very nearly paid for. 118 persons had contributed a shilling or less which showed a large number of people in Trumpington had a share in the building 00 04 14

1900 05 23

A period of nearly 30 years has elapsed since St Mark's church, a primitive wooden structure, was erected at Barton Road, Cambridge, to meet the needs of churchmen. Newnham is destined to become one of the principle residential districts & as the neighbourhood has gradually developed so the need of a permanent church has been the more keenly felt. The scheme which is now intended to carry out is but a part of a larger and more liberal one. The foundation stone now laid will only consist of the main parts of the nave and the north aisle and the extreme west end, and the south aisle will be left for future extensions. The new church will provide for a congregation numbering about 300 00 05 23

1901 03 13

Presentations were made to the Rev Monsignor Scott, Rector of the Church of Our Lady and the English Martyrs, Cambridge, in recognition of his recent appointment by the Pope. The Bishop of Northampton presided over a large and influential attendance. The honour that had been conferred was that he was appointed domestic prelate of his Holiness, so certainly it was the action of the Holy Father himself who had deigned to look upon this poor diocese and kindly raised to a high degree the Vicar General. The conferring of the dignity of prelate did not imply he was leaving them. (Applause) 01 03 13

1901 03 18

Two new classrooms at the primitive Methodist Chapel, Sturton Street, Cambridge, were formally opened. The space available at the chapel for teaching the scholars on Sundays has long proved inadequate and the extra accommodation will furnish room for at least fifty persons and may be expected to meet the requirements for some time to come. The opportunity was also taken of entirely renovating the interior of the chapel itself, which has been furnished with new seats, and the ceiling covered with match-boarding 01 03 18

1901 04 26

The new church of St Mark, Newnham, built to supersede the structure that had done duty for so many years was consecrated by the Bishop of Ely. The Master of Corpus said that in the new church they had visible proof of the continuity of the Church of God and that the gates of hell should not prevail against them; it was a visible link in a long chain of God's claim on the adoration and service of mankind 01 04 26

1901 11 12

The 32nd anniversary of the Theatre Royal Barnwell Mission, Newmarket Road, Cambridge was celebrated. Three private boxes had been prepared for the comfort of those who attended the

meetings, the building frequently containing over 1,000. If the theatre had been altered when it came into their possession it would not have done a tenth of the good it had done. By keeping it in the original form they get people who would not attend an ordinary place of worship. They had introduced lantern services, which had caused prejudice, but people were very nervous about any new form of service. 01 11 22

1902 02 07

The memorial window to the late Mr James Hough is now complete and the church of St Benedict is in possession of a work of art which will be a constant reminder of a Christian life. It is a three-light stained glass window immediately over the altar, designed by Arthur Savell of London and Regent Street, Cambridge. 02 02 07

1902 06 12

On 13th June 1889 the foundation stone of St Philip's Church, Mill Road, Cambridge, was laid by Professor Babington; on June 11th 1902 it was consecrated by the Bishop to the worship of God and "for ever set apart from all profane and common uses". A small wooden church was built by a pious, but somewhat eccentric Churchman, which was eventually to give place to the present building. It is a chapel-of-ease to the populous parish which ere long may be a distinct ecclesiastical parish. 02 06 12

1902 07 10

It is not a common feat to take down stone by stone, transport for fourteen miles and re-erect, practically without alteration, a solidly-built church capable of accommodating some 250 worshippers. That is what has been done with regard to the old Roman Catholic Church of St Andrew at Cambridge which has been removed to St Ives. The church is one of Pugin's earlier masterpieces and for 59 years it was in use in Cambridge. Then it was superseded by the magnificent new church of Our Lady and the English Martyrs. It was in danger of falling into a ruinous condition when the idea was conceived of transporting it to St Ives. 02 07 10

1902 07 17

Cambridge Paving Committee had approached the vicar and churchwardens of St Giles' church to ascertain whether it would be possible to acquire a portion of the churchyard for the widening of Castle Street. They would agree provided that the work of excavating and collecting human remains be screened by a hoarding & the bodies reverently re-interred. Chesterton Road corner was a most dangerous one and when the improvement was carried out one corner out of the four would be cut back. 02 07 17

1902 11 14

When Cambridge council decided to widen Castle Street by acquiring part of St Giles' churchyard the improvements necessitated the demolition of the wall and the removal of human remains from the consecrated ground. This work is now being proceeded with as reverently as possible. A considerable exhibition of morbid curiosity to view what is being done has been manifested, but it has received every discouragement from those responsible for the proper exhumation and reinterment. 02 11 14

1903 01 26

The Sabbath calm at the Barnwell Mission services held in the Barnwell Theatre was rudely disturbed. Religious fervour had been well sustained and the atmosphere became somewhat overheated. The superintendent requested that the hot water might be shut off. The warming apparatus gave a series of resounding reports and the supply cistern overflowed, causing steam to pervade the auditorium. The congregation jumped to the conclusion that the Theatre was on fire and dashed out. The panic was worst in the gallery, which was filled with about 150 young people who made a dash for the steep stairs. The band stuck to their posts and played the greater part of the congregation out and the Benediction was pronounced to those who remained. 03 01 26

1903 01 28

St Andrew's Street Baptist Chapel, Cambridge, is to be swept away and another more ornate is to be substituted. It has often excited the curiosity of strangers and not a little ridicule has been bestowed upon those who have worshipped in such a prison-like building. Even Charles Spurgeon described it as suitable for private executions. The new building will have both a tower and spire and be worthy of the prominent position it will occupy. 03 01 28 [2.9]

1903 03 25 c

Why do men forsake public worship, asked the Rev Joseph at Cambridge Guildhall. Inquiries had been made of four men in a college kitchen. One said: "Because we don't want to be hypocrites"; another: "I get nothing there worth listening to"; the third: "The parsons are such humbug". The fourth said: "Because so-called Christian men don't live up to the teaching of Christ and they standard they themselves set up". In summer it was beneficial and in no way harmful to spend Sundays in the open air. c03 03 25

1903 04 06

Since the members of Kensit's Wycliffe Preachers came to Cambridge there has been a general anticipation that a 'protest' by them would be made in one of the local churches. In an attempt to gain information as to their intentions two dozen opponents, most of them undergraduates, assembled at the Alexandra Hall to listen to an address. Afterwards a very heated linguistic duel raged over the doctrine of transubstantiation. Applause and counter-applause urged on the contestants to further efforts. A lull in the debate gave an opportunity to take a collection, which was contributed to by the opponents of the preachers. At the end one undergraduate asked whether they were going to brawl in any other churches tomorrow. 03 04 06

1903 05 06

The work of rebuilding St Andrew's Street Baptist Chapel, Cambridge, has reached an important stage with the ceremony of laying the foundation stone. The travelling crane upon the elevated railroad around the site was stationary, the workmen had turned their attention to the erection of a platform to accommodate the spectators. An important factor was the bottle placed under the stone which may in some remote age meet the gaze of an explorer yet unborn, the contents being a plan of the church, a programme of the day's ceremony and a copy of the CDN. 03 05 06

1904

Cherry Hinton Rd Free Church opened [446.13.1]

1904

Bible Society centenary [3.16]

1904 02 01

The new St Andrew's Street Baptist chapel, Cambridge, was formally dedicated. The exterior of the building is captivating, the interior is beautiful and the structural arrangements for the comfort of the congregation well considered. Unfortunately the pastor who had so strenuously worked on the scheme was unable to attend due to illness but so that he should not be entirely deprived of participation in the events the deacons arranged to have the speeches delivered in the building transmitted to his home by means of electrophone 04 02 01

1904 04 29

The stone laying was held of a new Wesleyan chapel being built at Old Chesterton to supersede one which has been in use for 60 years and is dilapidated and unsightly. It was first intended to erect it on Chesterton Road facing De Freville Avenue but a site in Church Street was chosen and the builders, Messrs Kerridge and Shaw have commenced operations of a simple structure capable of accommodating 150 persons together with 120 Sunday School scholars. The building was within sight of two other Christian churches but they came in the old Methodist spirit, as friends of all and the enemy of none and would not injuriously rival or detract from their work. 04 04 29 [1.9, 13.10]

1904 04 30

The Mormon missionary propaganda has extended to Cambridge. Two Elders from the Headquarters in Salt Lake City are in town for the purpose of explaining the beliefs of the sect to which they belong and hope to establish a branch of their church before they return to Utah. Circulars have been left at many houses saying: "By reading the accompanying tract you will discover the way of salvation and learn that some precious truths as taught by Christ are no longer understood by many of the Christian sects". It is signed: Elder Franklin P. Foster, 6 Abbey Road, Cambridge" 04 04 30

1904 06 20

St Andrew the Great church, Cambridge, has been thoroughly renovated and the congregation sat within spotless walls, under a roof which afforded no resting place for the busy manufacturer of webs and in an atmosphere suggestive of spring cleaning. The dignified furniture shines anew, the walls are nicely painted and distempered, the windows (coloured and plain) admit the full quota of light. Gas has given way to electric light and there is a sermon switch which will turn off the current from two-thirds of the lights. The organ has been removed from the west gallery and will be placed on the south side of the choir, at present it is in London and a harmonium sufficed for the Sunday services. CDN 20.6.1904

1904 09 20

Sunday saw the realization of a scheme in connection with Great St Mary's church, Cambridge, which has been in progress 15 years: the filling of the clerestory with windows. The church was re-opened having been closed so that the remaining three windows might be put in. Two were given in memory of W.H. Hattersley & Alderman Scales. They are a great improvement to the church and represent the three verses of the Te Deum CDN 20.9.1904

1904 10 13

The Wesleyans have added another to their places of worship by opening a new chapel in Church Street, Chesterton. It is the successor of a building in the High Street which during the latter period of its existence has been difficult to reconcile with conventional ideas of what a place of worship should be. Though doubtless hallowed in the memory of many its defects were numerous. Mr B.C. Jolley provided a piece of land upon which building operations began a few months ago. The architect adopted a Queen Anne style and the result is a pleasing-looking building with an appearance more domestic than ecclesiastical. CDN 13.10.1904

1904 12 24

A few says ago I dropped across a couple of gentlemen of the religious persuasion known as the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. Elder S.S. Downes and Elder H.B. Brown are their names and they are endeavouring in a quiet way to found a church in Cambridge. For and against Mormonism is not my mission to preach but they have as much right to extend their views as other folk on mission bent, providing they do it in a decent way. CDN 24.12.1904

1905 09 05

It is approaching 20 years ago that the strange sect called the Agapemonites founded by the late Brother Prince first secured a footing in Cambridge. Its advent is surrounded in some mystery and owing to the secrecy imposed on its followers it is difficult to speak with any degree of certainty of its growth. It was the time when the Wesleyan community was undergoing a severe trial and many families left the church, some joining the Abode of Love at a little school room in Elm Street where services were marked with great simplicity. The death of Prince was a severe test to his followers' faith but things have gone on much as before. 05 09 05 – 05c

1905 09 22

The vicar of St Philip's Church Cambridge recalled he had opposed a scheme for abolishing the boys', girls' and infants' Church Schools in Ross Street. There would now be a new mixed school where nonconformist children would receive religious instruction – but not from him. If parents cared

for Church instruction they should fight to keep Ross Street schools open and support the new master, Mr Meakin. 05 09 22a & b

1905 11 03

Old Baptist chapel, Old Chesterton new infant's classroom – 05 11 03a

1905 12 18

St Paul's church memorial window, Elizabeth Jones – 05 12 18c

1906

Mill Road Methodist Church [13.8]

1906 05 26

Two large meetings of Cambridge church people passed resolutions strongly condemning the Government's Education Bill. The Bishop of Ely said the dying of church schools would only be a matter of time. Religion was the only part of education worth having, the great question was how it would be taught. The Bill denied parents the liberty to have their children educated in the faith which they themselves held. 06 05 26d e

1906 06 05

When the Wesleyan chapel in Romsey Town was erected in Hemingford Road, space was left for a more commodious structure. The new chapel of which Mr W. Wren of Castle Street is the architect is designed in the Queen Anne style with utility, rather than elaborate decoration; nevertheless the building with its cathedral-like windows will be a considerable addition to the notable buildings of that end of Mill Road. 06 06 05 [1.11]

1906 07 16

Members of two religious sects came into collision on Parker's Piece. For the past six weeks representatives of the Mormons have been holding Sunday evening meetings and have attracted some opposition. A member of the Romsey Town Mission began to argue on the subject of polygamy; a hostile demonstration ensued and the Mormons were hustled off along Mill Road followed by a boozing crowd. 06 07 16 [2.13]

1906 10 26

The new Wesleyan Chapel in Romsey Town opened for public worship. It will accommodate over 400 people and is lighted by incandescent gas and heated by radiators. Though a plain building internally it is comfortable and has a pleasant appearance. The architect was W. Wren of Cambridge and the builders Coulson and Lofts. 06 10 26a

1906 11 07

St Barnabas church opened a drill room in Covent Garden for gymnastic exercises with recesses in the walls for the firearms of the Boys Brigade. Other rooms will be erected for bible classes, reading, refreshments and also for the practice of carpentering, making it a centre for social work among young men and boys. 06 11 07b

1906 11 09

St Barnabas Institute opened – 06 11 09b & c

1906 12 03

A terrible calamity has overtaken the St Ives Catholic community, the interior of whose beautiful Mission Church of the Sacred Heart was wrecked in one of the most astonishing cases of sacrilege ever recorded. A madman broke into the church by battering the door with a sledgehammer and then swept round the building like an avenging fury, raining blows on every object until there was nothing left to break. 06 12 03a & b [2.13]

1907 01 15

The vicarage of St Michael's church Cambridge has become vacant and Trinity College has offered the living to the Vicar of St Mary's, to work the parishes in conjunction. People have moved away from central Cambridge where there is a larger number of churches than now needed and since 1870 colleges have ceased to be exclusively Church of England institutions. The Church is inadequately supplied both with men and money and it is extravagant to maintain so many small parishes as separate cures. 07 01 15

1907 03 18

A movement is on foot amongst English Roman Catholics to establish a college for women, on the lines of Girton or Newnham, at the University. The leader is Miss Eleanor Warner who recently visited the Catholic Convent in Bateman Street. She is now in Rome for a meeting with the Pope. Opinion is strongly favourable and that Cambridge may soon see an addition to her institutions. 07 03 18a

1907 06 19

The 'Unity Brotherhood' had conducted some sort of mission for some months, circulating pamphlets couched in violent language attacking a Cambridge minister. The two men took up position on the Market Hill reading from a bundle of papers until there were about 1,000 people there. The crowd became hostile, hooting, shouting and trying to hustle them until police intervened. They were remanded in gaol so their mental condition might be inquired into. 07 06 19 & a

1907 06 22

The chimes of St Giles church clock in Cambridge have been restored after a silence of six years. Notice was given in the Parish Magazine but all do not read that excellent periodical and there was much astonishment when the bells entered anew upon their purpose of telling out the hours. The tone of the large bell is much improved now it has been re-hung so that it no longer rests against the wall. 07 06 22c

1907 07 10

Sir – I have been guilty of a gross and sinful mistake which has lead me open to attacks from subtle satanic spiritual influences. During the past months the Unity Brotherhood has solicited financial assistance from many people. Some of this money has been spent for charitable purposes but some has been given to a private account. Now I publicly ask forgiveness and wish to settle down quietly and earn an honest livelihood. A.C.G. 07 07 10a

1907 07 17

General William Booth, founder of the Salvation Army, was welcomed to Cambridge by thousands of spectators who lined the road from Trumpington to the Guildhall. Three red motor cars with a Salvation Army flag in each were given quite an oration en route to Market Square where the Band struck up a popular Army tune. But the General entered the building from Peas Hill and ignored the cries of 'Speech' as he disappeared from view 07 07 17 [3.17]

1907 09 24

Cambridge has been favoured with a visit from Mr Smyth-Piggott, the self-styled 'Messiah' and leader of the Agapemonites. He has a marked distaste for publicity but, unfortunately for the Prophet of Free Love's retiring disposition, he adopts a mode of travel which is not conducive to secrecy. Motor cars are not quite so common that a powerful machine, equipped with a comfortable tonneau, can pull up before a modest house in a quiet street where the sect is wont to meet without attracting attention 07 09 24

1907 10 11

St Mark's church, Newnham Croft, presented a scene of unwonted beauty and impressiveness when a large congregation assembled to witness the dedication of the new organ. It will meet a need which

has been long felt, the harmonium being quite inadequate to lead the singing. The organ was built by Messrs Norman and Beard, is a two manual with 11 stops and cost £276. 07 10 11

1907 11 05

Holy Trinity church redecoration – 07 11 05b

1908 01 31

For years bachelor Harris Norman lived the life of a miser in Romsey Town. He was endowed with a positive genius for accumulating money but never spent more than would suffice to keep soul and body together. He laid the foundations of his fortune as a hawker of cheap jewellery, then speculated in stocks and shares. In his will he bequeathed the whole of his property to be divided between Addenbrooke's Hospital and the London Jewish Synagogue. 08 01 31b – details 08 02 07 & a

1908 07 10

Fire damaged the Christadelphian Hall in Coronation Street, Cambridge, but fortunately the harmonium was not injured to any great extent. Another fire which broke out at Hale's Farm, Haverhill is believed to have been caused by the heat of the sun. During the afternoon the sun's rays had been extremely hot, the roof of the shed, under the slates was boarded and during the last winter had been stocked with stover. CWN 08 07 10 p2

1908 10 09

The police and the Cambridge corps of the Salvation Army came into conflict on Sunday evening. With full band, officers and followers, the customary demonstration commenced at the top of Kingston Street, a pitch which the Salvationists have occupied without interruption for twenty years. A song, followed by a prayer opened the service before a police officer asked them to 'move on'. The S.A. Officer refused but did say that when a sick person complains of the band it is silenced at once CWN 08 10 09 p2

1909

Building begins of Wesleyan Manse on Poplar House Estate, Christ's Pieces [1.15]

1909 02 12

Wickliffe Preachers paid a visit to St Clement's church while the vicar was hearing confessions and asked him to produce his authority for hearing confessions in the Church of England. An argument ensued and the vicar locked the Preacher in the church whilst he sent for the police. They then visited St Giles and sat down near the curate and an undergraduate who was confessing, refusing to move. Thereupon the curate whispered to the student to go to the vestry where they locked themselves in. In the evening there was a banner procession through the streets but a Protestant meeting was broken up by undergraduates. CWN 09 02 12

1909 02 19

The Protestant Demonstration called by Mr Kensitt at the Alexandra Hall resulted in the wildest uproar. The small hall was crowded with ladies, undergraduate and townspeople, while outside a band of disappointed 'Varsity demonstrators increased. Inside shouting and whistling commenced before the opening hymn but the earnest portion of the assembly did not give in and by singing as loudly as possible almost drowned the discordant shouting of the opposition. Mr Kensitt's speech was constantly interrupted. Missiles struck the windows and the hall was filled with the smell of sulphuretted hydrogen 09 02 19

1909 04 02

A domestic servant of Renfig, Hills Road, was sued for 50 shillings instalments on a Bible. A representative of the Bible Union Society had called at the house and after a great deal of persuasion she had agreed to join. He then produced a special bible with explanatory notes and pictures, saying it was only lent to her. But then they wrote demanding payment. She'd returned it but they had taken

her to court. These men roved around the town back doors and got girls to sign; it was a misrepresentation. She was awarded costs 09 04 02

1909 04 09

The Rev Charles Joseph, minister of St Andrew's Street Baptist Church, has had a varied career, having been a commercial traveller and journalist with a weekly column in the 'Baptist Times'. He came to Cambridge in 1898 and oversaw the erection of the new chapel in 1903. His forcible preaching is so much appreciated that he is in constant request as a special preacher and his engagement book is full many months ahead. 09 04 09

1909 05 07

Harris Norman of Romsey Town, a Jewish hawker, lived to all appearances in extremely poor circumstances. But when he died was found to be worth £12,000. He'd divided his assets between Addenbrooke's Hospital and the 'London Jewish Synagogue for the Poor and Needy Jews'. However four groups disputed to whom this second bequest should go and it came before a Judge in the Chancery Division to decide. 09 05 07

1909 09 17

A new religious house has been founded at Cambridge. It will have no official connection with the University and be used for serious study. Its head is Father Waggett who gave a series of lectures which attracted considerable attention. The house in Malting Lane is a beautiful structure whose deeds date back to the time of Charles I. Its delightful old-world garden of nearly two acres would permit of ample additions in future years CWN 09 09 17

1909 10 08

St Botolph's Church reopened after restoration. The old ceiling in the nave, which was in a very dilapidated condition, has been replastered and re-decorated. A new hot-water pipe heating apparatus has been installed by Messrs Headley and Edwards together with a hydraulic appliance for blowing the organ by Messrs Miller of Sidney Street. CWN 09 10 08

1910

1910

Church Congress held [3.18]

1910

Cambridge Baptist women's league founded [13.1]

1910 02

Consecration of new synagogue, Sidney Street: acquired lease of hall at back of Grays [5.11]

1910 04 29

Congregationalists assembled in large numbers to celebrate the centenary of the church at Fulbourn. Its origins can be traced to 1776 when worship was carried out in a barn. In 1810 they took possession of a small meeting house erected by Thomas Harlock. The Rev. S. Smoothy had been appointed in 1878 making him the longest-serving minister and no church had ever had a more faithful servant 10 04 29d & e

1910 09 23

Very quietly and unostentatiously the self-styled 'Messiah', Mr Smyth-Pigott of 'Abode of Love' fame revisited Cambridge and spend the day with what remains of the 'faithful few' of the sect who still go by the name of the Agapemonites. Some time ago there was quite a number but most of the younger members have fallen away and now they can be counted on the fingers of one hand. His arrival was a great contrast to his last visit when, clad in clerical garb, he dashed into town in a swagger motor car. There was no one to meet him at the station and he walked slowly into Devonshire

Road where he entered a house. Later four ladies visited but no noise was heard except the clatter of knives and forks and the rattle of cups. 10 09 23a

1910 09 30

Signal success has attended the Cambridge Jubilee Church Congress. Fifty years ago when a few ardent Churchmen met together in the Hall of King's College, public interest in their proceedings was practically non-existent. Since then great changes of thought have taken place and this week three thousand members of Congress together with an Archbishop and 28 Bishops have attended. 10 09 30 & a

1910 10 07

The venerable head of the Salvation Army, General Booth, revisited Cambridge. He has aged since his last visit. The burdens of years now rests heavily upon his venerable shoulders. His long hair and beard are white, his sight is dim, his shoulders are bowed, his voice has lost its volume and penetrating quality and he had to be assisted on and off the platform. But he is as eloquent and earnest as ever. For nearly an hour and a quarter he stood, his spare form closely buttoned up in his long military frock coat, upright and soldierly, a truly wonderful old man. 10 10 07

1911 05

Meeting 'to expose Mormonism' [5.10]

1911 05 12

The work of beautifying St John's Church in Wellington Street has been carried on steadily. The chancel curtains and all windows were thoroughly cleaned and the walls brushed down, the Holy Table has been restained, the communion rails polished and the ironwork regilded. It is hoped the organ may be cleaned and repaired and that a new lectern may be purchased. Mrs de Candole's kind gift of shrubs and plants has done much to beautify the churchyard 11 05 12e

1911 07 22

Methodist Chapel, Panton Street sold to Christian Scientists, previously met in Southgate Lodge, Emmanuel street for 8-10 years [1.13, 1.17]

1911 09 08

Cambridge seems to afford congenial soil for the propagandists of peculiar religions. The Christian Scientists and Christadelphians have branches and even Smyth Pigott, the leader of the Agapemonites and founder of the notorious Abode of Love, has followers. Now Mormons have made half a dozen converts and two young Romsey town women are leaving for America. But the Mormon missionaries deny they are going to Utah: they did not preach emigration but preferred them to stay and help build up churches here 11 09 08c & d

1912 01 12

A wedding of great interest took place at King's College Chapel, the first in the building for nearly 200 years. The bride, Miss Katharine Heycock, daughter of a Fellow, wore a beautiful dress of white brocade and a train of old lace made by Mrs Thompson of Panton Street. The six bridesmaids wore Kate Greenaway coats trimmed with swansdown and hats trimmed with mistletoe and holly. Amongst the presents were a silver hot-water kettle, silver egg-stand and toast-rack. Afterwards the bride and groom left for the Riviera. The earliest wedding in the chapel was in 1666. 12 01 12c

1912 01 26

Wesley church raises £15,500 for rebuilding – 12 01 26c

1912 03 15

The County Council is to purchase Hobson Street Wesleyan Chapel and the adjoining house to build a Council Chamber and offices. The site is central and quiet and although the cost might appear to be high it would eventually result in a saving. There would be much greater efficiency to have all

officials under one roof instead of them running backwards and forwards from one place to another. They would also need four less telephones, saving £30 12 03 15f

1912 04 26

Monsignor Provost Scott anniversary ordination as priest 50 years ago – 12 04 26b

1912 05 10

“New Tunes to Hymns, Ancient and Modern” is the title of a little collection composed by the Rev Richard Owen of St Giles’ Vicarage and published by Mr A.J. Gillson of Cambridge. In these days of multitudinous hymnals, when every church, sect and connection has its own original compilation of hymn tunes, cribbed and purloined from each other, one seeks the reason for any fresh one. This one is intended for a practiced body of choir singers, the stanzas are unsymmetrical and the rhythm is unconventional. We cordially recommend it to the attention of up-to-date choirs. 12 05 10h

1912 07

St Andrews Chesterton consecrates additional land [5.16]

1912 09 20

Hobson Street chapel was opened in 1849 by Wesleyans had previously met in a chapel in Fitzroy Street and a room in Green Street. It became a spiritual home for residents and undergraduates and was improved in 1891. But it has become inadequate. The Fitzroy Street chapel had become a jam warehouse but Hobson Street will be replaced by the new County Council offices. They will now meet in the Victoria Assembly Room until the new Wesley Chapel on Christ’s Pieces is ready. 12 09 20c

1912 10 11

The laying of the foundation stone of the new Wesleyan Chapel adjoining Christ’s Pieces to replace the old Hobson Street church marks an important epoch in Cambridge history. Built of white Bath stone, the style is Late Perpendicular and all the seats will be of oak. Thomas Ferns was handed a silver trowel by Mr Gunton, the architect, as a memento of the occasion but he did not use such a lovely object and took another to perform the ceremony. He was followed by Mrs Lavender, who was a young girl teacher when the stone was originally laid in Hobson Street. A bottle placed under the main stone states that the site was purchased in on 7th August 1903. 12 10 11 f & g 12 10 18b & c

1912 10 25

Alterations to Castle End Institute Mission Hall mean that rooms are now well ventilated, brilliantly lighted with incandescent gas and have hot water heating apparatus. Two classrooms have been fitted up as a billiard room with a reading cum smoke room and a games room upstairs. The mission had begun at Frost’s Passage and Kettle’s Yard Night School where they had to tell the boys that soap was cheap and water was cheaper. The first site had proved unsuitable so the present site with a tiny grocer’s shop at the corner and some back-to-back cottages had been bought. Now it would meet the needs of the neighbourhood and make residents lives more beautiful 12 10 25c

1912 11 01

The new vestry at St Mark’s Church, Newnham Croft, given by Mr & Mrs C.F. Foster in memory of their two sons, was dedicated. The vestry, which is the work of Mr W. Sindall, is built with ordinary red brick and stone, with oak wood. It is partitioned off with a moveable screen allowing the choir to use one side and the clergy the other. A heating chamber is situated beneath it. The architects were Mess James, Laycock and Bellamy of London. 12 11 01g

1912 11 01

Wesley church bazaar raises final funds; publication of a shilling souvenir with all chapels in circuit and on Hobson Street Sunday School. The other compiled by Mrs Ryder, Hobson Street, who wrote to old ministers and asked for a shilling and a quotation. – 12 11 01h & i

1912 11 08

It was one of the noisiest ‘rags’ seen for some years, for the introduction of a variety of bomb-firework, which gives a report louder than a rifle shot, more than compensated for the fewer Varsity men than usual. The liveliest scene occurred in King Street where the crowd were attracted by the sight of the hoarding outside the partly-demolished Hobson Street Chapel. Instead they turned their attention array of woodwork in connection with the building of the new Wesleyan Chapel near Christ’s Pieces, but this was strongly guarded by police. Another battle broke out in Grange Road where some 400 undergraduates damaged the fence around Mr Ebenezer Smith’s garden. 12 11 08a & b

1913 01 10

The beautiful new buildings for the Wesley Church at Four Lamps are growing rapidly. The builders have made headway with the schools and the outline of the church itself is already clearly indicated. Looking at the operations from Christ’s Pieces one hears the hum of an engine and sees a busy swarm of men climbing about the scaffolding. The room to be used by Universitymen is already up, with the roof virtually on and the schools next the Manse are well forward. The church itself will not be finished before September but the pillars and main porch are already above ground. 13 01 10d

1913 01 24

Castle End Institute is carrying out splendid work in this thickly-populated area. There is a first-rate billiard room for men, with reading and games room upstairs; boys have a gymnasium and there are weekly sewing classes for girls. A pulpit will shortly be added to the mission room which presents very bright appearance after its redecoration 13 01 24 p12 CIP

1913 02 28

Rev M.E. Aubrey, minister St Andrew’s Street Baptist church – profile, 13 02 28 p3 & 5 CIP

1913 04 11

A pathetic tragedy occurred in Cambridge when a German teacher committed suicide after killing his two children by shooting them with a revolver. His wife, to whom he was devoted, had died in February. He was an advanced Spiritualist and had written to the coroner stating that by the time he received the letter he and his children would have rejoined their loved one. He was firmly of the belief that the step he was taking was merely a means of reuniting the family. 13 04 11 p6 & p9 CIP [5.12]

1913 04 18

The strained relations between the Superintendent of the Zion Sunday School and other church officers have resulted in a definite split. When the Sunday School was closed three weeks ago the local Press were asked to make no mention of the trouble in the hope that a peaceful settlement might be reached without publicity. But negotiations have failed and a new Prospect Sunday School and Mission Room has now been started in the former ‘Express’ Printing Works in Eden Street. 13 04 18 p5 CIP

1913 05 09

Wesley Church Sunday schools opened

1913 05 23

Ordination in Jesus College chapel 13 05 23 p5 CIP

1913 06 13

The foundation stone of the new Cheshunt College buildings in Bateman Street was laid by the Lord Chancellor. The college was formed in 1768 by Selina Countess of Huntingdon to prepare men for evangelistic work and its students can enter any church. It moved to Hills Road Cambridge in 1905 and is now attached to the University. Most of its students take the Theological Tripos. A number have risen to eminence as missionaries in the foreign field 13 06 13 p7 CIP

1913 06 20

Welsh Church bill protest, Parker's Piece 13 06 20 p7 CIP

1913 06 27

The Church of England's service on Midsummer Common was about to begin and the clergy and choir had taken their places when one side of the platform gave way and those standing on it were thrown down. The people on the other side were about to go to their assistant when that side also collapsed and they disappeared from view. The Rev F.B. Gwinn had one leg caught between two boards and Councillor Hawkin's face was cut. The service was proceeded with as soon as possible. The platform had only been put up during the day and insufficient props had been placed under it 13 06 27 p11 CIP

1913 08 29

Rev Holt Shafto, Wesley Church leaves – 13 08 29 p6

1913 10 03

A new Church Army mission van was dedicated, replacing one that had been on the road for 18 years. Called the Ely No.1 van, it bears the name 'Mary Ann' and is much more convenient for those who have to pass their lives in it. There is larger floor space with two bunks instead of three, giving greater comfort. Mounting the steps there is a hall which can be turned into a covered-in platform to address open-air meetings. The living part is cosy and comfortably furnished with a cooking range and a chest of drawers which opens to make a fair-size table. Folding chairs and cushions make it as home-like as possible. 13 10 03 p7 CIP

1913 10 10

Christ Church, Newmarket Road, has undergone a much-needed transformation. An ugly roof of matchboarding has been decorated, the east end has been enclosed by panelling which will form two new vestries and the stone work of the pillars, hitherto painted brown, has been restored. The cumbrous pulpit staircase has been brought under the gallery, giving space for the choir stalls. It gives a feeling of lightness and beauty to a church hitherto not marked by these characteristics, with evident regard to modern taste 13 10 10 p8 CIP

1913 10 17

Christ Church reopening 13 10 17 p11 CIP

1913 10 20

Wesley Chapel Christ's Pieces opened [1.10, 6.22]

1913 10 24

Christ Church reopened, first men's service 13 10 24 p5 CIP

1913 11 07

Wesley Church opening services 13 11 07 p5, 10 CIP

1913 11 07

Prospect Baptist Church Sunday School – 13 11 07 CIP

1913 12 18

Salvation Army citadel planned, Tenison Rd 13 12 19 p12

1914 01 30

The old Primitive Methodist Chapel in St Peter's Street is now in the hands of the house-breaker and is fast disappearing, together with the adjoining cottages. From the ruins will rise new, handsome and commodious buildings. The old premises have been altogether inadequate and only a lack of funds have prevented the work starting earlier. Now work can be commenced and we are witnessing the

passing of the old meeting house that for nearly 50 years has been the home of Primitive Methodism in this part of the town. It was used for the last time on Sunday week, when impressive farewell services were held. 14 01 30f pics of ext & int.

1914 02 13

"Brawling" in Church.- Interruptions in Divine Service were made at Holy Trinity Church, St. Matthew's Church and the Friends' Meeting House by militant suffragettes. Militant methods of madness have already put a brake on the advancement of an. excellent movement and the disturbance of church worshippers is no argument in favour of votes for women 14 02 13 CIPof

1914 02 20

The laying of the foundation stone of the new Primitive Methodist Church in Castle Street was well attended in spite of the unpleasant weather. The site was gaily decorated with flags and a platform erected for those taking part in the ceremony. The layers of stones were presented with small silver trowels as mementoes of the event and those who wished were invited to purchase the privilege of laying a brick. Amongst those who did so was Mrs David Moore of the Band of Hope Union 14 02 20a & b Castle Street Methodist Chapel opened [1.3]

1914 03 27

The foundation stones of the Salvation Army Citadel in Tenison Road were laid by several prominent people and a large crowd gathered to witness the ceremony. The citadel will consist of a large hall accommodating 400 people with a band room, tea room etc. The bands of the Cambridge and Cottenham corps were present and accompanied the hymns. The weather was threatening but fortunately the rain held off until the final vote of thanks 14 03 27g

1914 04 03

The foundation stones of the new Primitive Methodist Church Sundays Schools in Castle Street were laid when a large crowd gathered. A public tea was held afterwards in the Palace Rink, Magrath Avenue, when 350 attended. 14 04 03d

1914 06 04

Salvation Army citadel opened by Mrs McKenny Hughes. The first hall was the Sturton Town Hall and years later the Junior Hall in Gwydir Street 14 06 04 p7 [4.3]

1914 06 05

St Philip's - Rev. E. Lloyd Rees, senior curate leaving for Sheffield. Will be accompanied by Mr. H. W Flory, who has been in charge of the mission church of St. John's. He will then be appointed curate there 14 06 05 CIPof

1914 07 31

Castle Hill Methodist Sunday school opened 14 07 31

1914 10 16

The handsome new Castle Street Methodist chapel was formally opened. The Mayor referred to the 'tie rods' of the building which might detract from the artistic appearance but were needed because of the traffic which passed. When they laid the foundation stone no one thought that before it was completed the nations of Europe would be in deadly conflict. In Cambridge they had no forts or ramparts against their human foes, but this was a defence against spiritual enemies 14 10 16

1915

Theatre Royal Barnwell Mission Hall closed [5.3]

1915 01 09

All Saints church suffered serious damage to roof and spire as result of recent storm. A stone pinnacle fell from the spire and struck the roof of the vestry. A large hole was knocked in the roof and a mass

of debris fell on the organ below. The damage caused was serious and the cost of repair will be heavy. Workmen are now engaged in mending the damaged roof 15 01 09

1915 09 17

Fire Christ Church parish room 15 09 17 p5,7

1915 11 10

Cardinal Bourne at Cambridge. His Eminence Cardinal Bourne, Archbishop of Westminster, visited Cambridge on Friday and blessed the foundation stone of the chapel being erected at St. Edmund's House. St. Edmund's House, Cambridge was established in 1896. The purpose is to provide an extended university course for Roman Catholic priests and ecclesiastical students. The Duke of Norfolk is the founder and St. Edmund's is under the control of the Hierarchy being managed by a body composed of Clergy and laity of which the Duke of Norfolk is the president. The present master is the Rev. Father T. L. Williams 15 11 10 CIPof [3.7], 15 11 10h Ch

1915 12 31

Death Sarah, wife of Gipsy Cornelius Smith; history of Salvation Army in Cambridge 15 12 31 p5

1916 02 09

Rev William Percy Hutton, Methodist minister; includes history Methodist churches in Cambridge – 16 02 09c

1916 10 18

St Edmund's House chapel for Catholic priests opened by Cardinal Bourne – details – 16 10 18a

1917 09 19

Stained Glass Window. An interesting little ceremony was performed at St. Philip's Church, Romsey Town, Cambridge, on Thursday afternoon, when a stained glass window, given by a former member of the choir, was dedicated. The Vicar (the Rev. C. Howard) read the dedication prayers. The window, which is a single figure panel, has for its subject St. Philip, and is a very beautiful piece of work. It was designed, made and presented to the church by Mr. Thomas C. Eastwell, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. Eastwell of 93, Sedgwick Street, Cambridge, who has for the last, three years been studying at the Royal College of Art, South Kensington. Mr. Eastwell was for a number of years a chorister at St. Philip's Church 17 09 19 CIPof

1918 10 09

St. Mary Stourbridge chapel rededicated for use of troops in area Ch 18 10 09 p9

1919

Fisher House opening [NI.1.11]

1919

Christian Science Reading Room opened, Regent Street [2.29]

1919 05

Cambridge University Catholic Oratory, Round Church Street opened [4.5]

1919 06 25

Jubilee Tour. Cambridge was the first town of importance visited by Mrs. General Booth of the Salvation Army, on her Jubilee tour, which commenced on Friday. The "Generaless" arrived at Cambridge by motor on Saturday evening and was received on the Market Hill by Alderman Sidney Campkin, who delivered an address of welcome. Mrs. Booth spoke to a large crowd who had assembled 19 06 25 CIPof

1920

1920 05 05

New Street Men's Bible Class memories in lantern lecture; boys revolted when teacher struck lad – Ch 20 05 05a

1920 11 10

St Mark's church jubilee – history – Ch 20 11 10a

1921 07 20

Catholic Bible Congress - practically all English Roman Catholic hierarchy present, July – 21 07 20b [4.7]

1922

Cherryhinton Road Free Church opened, 1922 voted to join Congregational Union & new church built 1926 [446.13.1]

1922 02 22

Mgr Provost Scott, rector Roman Catholic parish of Cambridge for 40 years; details of growth of church – obit 22 02 22

1922 04 21

Impressive scenes were witnessed at the funeral of an Indian undergraduate. The funeral was carried out according to the Mohammedan ritual, and the interment was at St Giles' cemetery, Huntingdon Road, Cambridge. The coffin was conveyed in a hearse and was followed on foot by over 50 Indian undergraduates. Arrived at the cemetery the coffin was placed on the lawn at the entrance. Then several of the mourners, removing their shoes, conducted a short form of service, after which the coffin and mourners were photographed by an Indian student. The body was carried to the graveside and lowered by a party of the mourners. Nobody who was not directly concerned with the ceremony was allowed within 25 yards of the grave 22 04 21

1922 08 09

Salvationists in Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire were greatly heartened during the holiday weekend by a visit from Mrs Booth, the beloved wife of the General, who addressed a series of meetings in several of the towns and villages which come in what is known as the Northampton Division. Mrs Booth made her tour in a motor car kindly lent and driven by Councillor H. Franklin of Cambridge. At all the meeting places large crowds had assembled and along the roads through which the cars passed not only Salvationists but many others came to the doors or stopped at their work to wave their hand to Mrs General Booth. Although it is a very long time since any Salvation Army gathering was held in St Ives there was a very large muster on the Market-hill to welcome her. 22 08

1922 09 04

Recent issues of "The Inquirer" have contained matter interesting to the Cambridge public. About £4,318 has been received up to date in response to an appeal for the cost of a site and buildings for the Unitarian Church. A hall is now being built and will be opened for worship in the autumn. The site has apace for the erection of a church, which will ultimately be built beside the hall. The projected building will only be a development of a subsisting entity. A Unitarian church has existed at Cambridge for the best part of 18 years 22 09 04 [11.1]

1922 09 04

Cambridge is very different from most places. Most of the churches here, until quite recently, have been served by ministers who were Fellows of colleges and lived in their college rooms. Before the colleges came there can be little doubt that each parish has its vicarage but in course of time these houses disappeared. But St Botolph's has been more fortunate. During the last 700 years there has always been a lodging for the incumbent somewhere within the parish, either in Corpus, or in Queens' or outside college walls. For 300 years the parsonage house was opposite the church at the corner of

Silver-street. A little more than 50 years since, when the old churchwarden built the present fine house, the lodging there was given up. But the parish still had its rector on the spot with a succession of rectors having the same rooms in Queens' college. In these times when there are so many undergraduates the college needs all its available space and it is no longer content to have the rector inside its walls 22 09 04

1922 09 22 c

At a meeting held in the Parish Hall, Union-road, Cambridge it was decided to erect a memorial to the late Mgr Provost Scott, rector of the Church of Our Lady and the English Martyrs. The chairman said the late rector had been nearly forty years in the parish and he was the initiation of the change from the little old church which used to stand in Union-lane to the present large and handsome edifice. He had built up all its traditions and had set up a high standard of services. He mentioned proposed schemes including the erection of a Calvary over the tomb, a monument in the church - a recumbent effigy or a brass, or some definite work further beautifying the church which the late Provost built and loved c22 09 22

1923

Holy Sepulchre trees removed [NI.1.15]

1923 01 22

Saturday and Sunday were great days in the history of local Unitarians, for they witnessed the realisation of a dream - the opening and dedication of a permanent Unitarian Church building in Cambridge. For something like 20 years Unitarians in Cambridge have been meeting in hired halls. The new hall is a particularly fine one in Victoria Street and eminently suitable for the purpose intended. It was also stated that a member of the congregation had now undertaken to erect a memorial church, which would mean that the new hall would be greatly extended 23 01 22

1923 10 17

The seventh bell at Great St Mary's Church, Cambridge, which was cracked on armistice night by some over-enthusiastic revellers, has just been returned from the founders. It now inclined on a pedestal in the nave of the Church awaiting re-fixing in the tower, and there it will stay until paid for. The cost of taking down, re-casting and re-fixing is close on £100. The bell was originally cast in 1667, and recast in 1723. 23 10 17

1923 11 03

Cambridge Methodist Sunday Schools Centenary [1.14]

1923 11 20

A ceremony unique in Cambridge and of a very impressive nature took place at the Carmelite convent on Chesterton road when his eminence Cardinal Bourne, Archbishop of Westminster gave an address. The ceremony was that of enclosing nuns. The house consists of two former dwelling houses joined together and possesses a small public chapel in which there will be public mass every day. With the exception of the nuns' choir chapel, no part of the building is actually new 23 11 20

1924 02 05

Sir - I know of one Church which has but two doors for the congregation which also admits to two galleries as well as the body of the Church. Just what would happen should a fire break out? One has not forgotten the mad scramble at the old Barnwell theatre during a lantern service. It was due to overheating of the hot water apparatus, which emitted clouds of steam, which the terrified congregation imagined was smoke. Then someone shouted "fire" and there was a wild stampede for the exits, people screamed, were trampled on, and many fainted. Such an experience is not desired again. The one thing in the churches favour against a panic is that they are scarcely ever full. – "Churchman" 24 02 05

1924 05

Emmanuel Congregational Chapel 200th anniversary [4.8]

1924 11 28

The Fiery Cross, which has been circulating throughout the dioceses of England since the beginning of the year , was met at the gates of St Mary the Less, Cambridge , on Thursday night by a full choral procession. It came from St Luke's Chesterton and proceeds to Tilbrook, Hunts. Wherever the fiery cross goes it has a perpetual stream of watchers. It may be described as a missionary pilgrimage, an intercession for the conversion of the heathens in England 24 11 28

1925 05 02

After nearly 700 years – except for a period during the Great War – services are again to be held in the Leper's Chapel at Barnwell. The chapel is the property of the University by whom permission to use the building was readily given. Negotiations have also had to be conducted with the owner of the field, so that a right-of-way may be obtained from the road. The services will be regular and open to the public. Members of Westcott House are now busy at the chapel removing some of the ravages of time as the building remains just as it was left at the end of the war 25 05 02

1925 05 05

Monday was an important day in the lives of Roman Catholic members of the University. The blessing of the chapel at Fisher House took place and was followed by a luncheon. Fisher House is on the site of the Black Swan, one of the oldest inns in Cambridge, and the Dug Out. It has been turned into the residence for the chaplain and the old billiard room at the back has been adapted to serve as a chapel 25 05 05 [4.10]

1925 10 24

Wesley House, the new Wesleyan Methodist post-graduate theological college which has risen on a site in Jesus Lane, was formally opened. It was five years ago that the Wesleyan Methodist Conference decided to set up the college at Cambridge and a site was purchased from Jesus college. The architect, Sir Aston Webb, has carried out a pleasing design in red brick. The building comprises accommodation for 29 students. The work of the college has been carried on for the past four years in hired buildings 25 10 24

1925 12 05

Regular services were resumed in the Leper chapel last summer, conducted by members of Westcott House. If these services are to be continued a proper floor (there being at present no other floor than beaten earth) and some form of heating apparatus are necessary, while the condition of the interior plaster, which is continually dropping, calls for immediate and careful repair. This means the raising of a considerable sum of money and it is estimated that £300 will be required 25 12 05

1926

Cambridgeshire Congregational Union Jubilee of foundation [4.11]

1926 10 02

New Cherry Hinton Free Church opened 26 10 02, p6

1927 04 29

The stone-laying ceremony in connection with the new hall at Hills Road Wesleyan Church, Cambridge took place. It will be a single-storey building but with a view to enlarging later, if necessary. Mr C. Kerridge and Mr W.A. Gray, members of the church, are the honorary architects and the building is being done by Messrs J.R. Bennett & sons. Too often had they had to work under most depressing and unfavourable conditions. The Young Men's Fraternal had increased from five to nearly 50; if they did not make provision for these young fellows others would step in and reap what they had sown. 27 04 29

1927 05 06

Cambridge Guildhall was packed for “Welcome Home” and jubilee celebrations organised in honour of Gypsy Smith, the world-famed evangelist, who has just returned from Australia and New Zealand. The Gypsy told of some of his experiences during this last tour and recounted again how he was converted in the little chapel in Fitzroy Street. A telegraph of “much satisfaction” was received from the King and he was presented with a history of Cambridge. The Mayor said that 50 years of service was a wonderful record. He was the missionary and evangelist to the English-speaking people and had probably spoken to more of the English race than any person, living or dead. Cambridge ought to be particularly proud as his career had started here. 27 05 06

1927 11 25

It was a memorable day in the history of St John’s Church, Hills Road, Cambridge with the opening of the new Parish Hall and Sunday School. The hall, which is dedicated chiefly to the use of young people, is a fine building of red brick and is situated on the site of the old Mission Church in Blinco Grove. The Women’s Union have made themselves responsible for the porch and entrance, raising £130 & money for the electric light has been raised by Miss Gwatken and her Bible Class. 27 11 25 [1.17]

1928

Cambridge National Spiritualist Church formed, services held at Cosmopolitan Cinema, Market Passage [5.1]

1928 01 23

It was with feelings of justifiable pride and deep gratitude that the Unitarians of Cambridge assembled in their new Memorial Church, Emmanuel Road for its dedicatory service. It stands as a perpetual memorial to the memory of Mr G.W. Brown. The church has been designed by Ronald P. Jones who was responsible for the Church Hall in 1922 and follows the normal “college chapel” design. Prof Burkitt referred to the difficulties the movement experienced in the ‘80s when services were held in the smoky atmosphere of a billiard room in Green Street. 28 01 23

1928 01 28

Finding that the spire of St Clement’s church, Cambridge was in a dangerous condition a small army of workmen are busy erecting scaffolding. The pinnacle above the tower is to be taken down and will not be re-erected. A hole in the spire about ten feet by three feet is visible from the road and it is believed that the trouble was caused by the recent gale. The spire is a later addition to the church, having been erected in 1832 according to instructions under the will of William Cole of Milton. 28 01 28

1928 02 03

St Clements steeple demolished due to condition [1.18, 6.3]

1928 05

Cambridgeshire Baptist Association 50th anniversary meeting [2.3]

1929

Hope Chapel, Cambridge Place opened [2.8]

1929

Gospel Standard church formed [12.11]

1929 06 16

St Johns Church Hills Road consecrated 33 years after opening of first portion [1.20] CDN 16.6.1929

1929 09 13

Band of Hope cinema – David Moore – 29 09 13

1929 05 10

Abbey Church new porch dedicated – 29 05 10 p8

1930

1930 07 18

There were remarkable scenes at the opening services of the Arbury Road Baptist Church Hall and School. When the doors were flung open the crowd was far too large for the building. Although many stood at the rear many more had to be content with standing outside and taking part in the proceedings through the open windows. It meets the religious needs of a large residential area of 4,000 people which has come into existence since the war and it is hoped to built a chapel within a few years 30 07 18 [2.14, 13.4]

1930 09 17

St Augustine's church in Cambridge was erected on land given by the Rev. T.J. Puckle in 1897. It was a memorial to the late Canon Churton, who was a saint; he considered its most important function was the training of children. His brother was a member of Westcott House and he suggested their men should assist. The new vestry was a much-needed improvement. It would be used as a storeroom for chairs and provide a room for small meetings. 30 09 17-a

1931 04 03

St Paul's church, Cambridge, having been closed for a month during which extensive restoration work and some constructional changes were effected, reopened for worship amid an atmosphere of thanksgiving and delight. The improvements amounts to nothing less than a transformation and the previously unattractive interior is now pleasing in the extreme. Pews have been modernised with a wide central aisle, new choir stalls and chancel screen erected and a small clergy vestry provided. New arches and windows have greatly improved the lighting of the chancel. 31 04 03h & i

1931 11

Little St Mary's Chapel consecrated [1.26]

1932 01

St Peters Church underpinned to stop it falling down [1.28]

1932 03

Christian Spiritualist church constituted [11.3]

1932 03 30

The residential population of All Saints church in Cambridge is dwindling on account of commercial progress. Of 1,500 residents when the church was built, only 600 now remain due to the conversion of houses into shops and offices. The time is rapidly approaching when parishioners will have to consider the state of the church, the vestry meeting was warned. 32 03 30a

1932 05 06

St Paul's church hall, Suez Road was dedicated to serve the large community resident in the Coleridge Road district. Jesus College had given the site with sufficient land at the rear to build a church while Mrs E. Rowcroft of Torquay had send a cheque for £1,000 for the building work. 32 05 06 c & d

1932 05 28

St George's church appeal – (detailed) – 32 05 28 & 28a

1932 06 10

Salvation Army young people's hall foundation – 32 06 10a & b

1932 06 11

St George's church foundation stone – 32 06 11 [3.6, 6.7]

1932 09 23

The Union of British Methodism – bringing together the Wesleyan, Primitive and United Methodists - is the most important event in the history of British Nonconformity since the birth of Wesley.

Cambridge's first Methodist chapel in Fitzroy Street was where Gipsy Smith heard the sermon which led to him becoming an evangelist. It is now Fellowship House for the local unemployed. 32 09 23b & c

1932 10 14

The new church of St George, Chesterton, was packed for the dedication by the Bishop of Ely. He welcomed those from the local district: it was for them that the church had been built. It was only a hall at present but he wanted them to see to it than an actual church was built in due course. 32 10 14a

1932 11 04

The Rev Herbert Appleford was a notable benefactor to the new parish of St George that covers the new housing estates in the Milton Road district. It has been an open secret that his enthusiasm and generosity made possible the work of the church. He provided money to purchase a site, he laid the foundation stone and was present at its dedication. He also furnished the sanctuary and gave half the cost of the clergyman's house. The new church practically owes its existence to his generosity. 32 11 04

1933

Oxford Movement centenary celebrations [5.15]

1933 01 27

St George's church – why not move St Michael's – 33 01 27g

1933 03 09

Gt St Mary's bells a nuisance – 33 03 09

1933 07 12

Dr R.M. Salaman addressed Cambridge Rotary club on the persecution of the Jews in Germany. Hitler was destroying the whole people: it was more serious than the mere 'beating up' of individuals who happened to be Jewish, it was a movement which struck at the very roots of civilisation. Paid advocates of the Nazis had been sent to Palestine and the Ukraine and the doctrine was being taught in schools in the most scandalous way. 33 07 12 p8

1933 07 15

The centenary of the Oxford Movement was celebrated at St Giles' church when the congregation was exceptionally large. Prof Wynne regretted the tendency of the Church to be manned with old men. It was the younger man who saw visions and who must carry on the work. These days a mass attack was being made upon Christianity, the world was growing increasingly evil. The English Church Union and the Anglo-Catholic Congress should work together. 33 07 15 p6

1933 12 12

St Botolph's church has never had a house for its incumbent. Former rectors have generally been Fellows of Queens' and entitled to a set of rooms in the college. But recent clergy have been family men and had to provide their own living accommodation. Now a new rectory in Summerfield, Newnham Road, has been designed by C.F. Skipper 33 12 12

1934 04 11

In 1921 members of Sturton Street Methodist Church erected a school hall as a temporary building. Now plans have been prepared for extensions to the church itself with choir stalls and pews. They have launched an appeal for £2,300 to include a new hall. Old scholars are invited to give a contribution, however small. 34 04 11

1934 09 15

Extensive repairs are being carried out to the roof of Great St Mary's church. Once again the cause is the death-watch beetle whose activities in the wooden beams have wrought tremendous havoc. The area around the chancel is in 'splints' with steel scaffolding but services are being held as usual. The church has only recently been cleaned and the organ renovated. One can only hope the ravages have been checked before they could cover the whole of the roof. 34 09 15 [6.13]

1934 10 12

There was great rejoicing among members of the Sturton Street Methodist Church at the opened of the new school hall, adjoining the chapel. The building, which seats about 200 and has a fine platform and convenient ante-rooms, was beautifully decorated with flowers for the occasion. It was opened by Arthur Harding, the senior trustee who has been associated with the church for 37 years. He hoped it would be of great service amongst young people. 34 10 12

1936 05 25

The new electric clock in the tower of Cherry Hinton Church was given by Mrs Newport-Willson in memory of her husband. She also bore the expense of leading an electric cable into the church. The three feet dial is Coventry blue with gilded figures and hands. The hours are struck on the beautiful toned fourth bell and are heard all over the village. Churchyard trees have been lopped to give an unimpeded view. Over 50 years ago Mr Carter Willson built Brooklyn on Cherry Hinton Road which was then the only house between Cherry Hinton brook and the railway bridge and the family is devoted to the parish church 36 05 25a

1936 06 06

Mrs Arthur Walters book 'My Wayside' describes life in Cambridge where Arthur Walters was minister Hills Road Methodist church - 36 06 06b

1936 08 22

William Allen, retired railwayman, joined Wesley Methodist Church, Hills Road in 1867 when it worshipped in a temporary building at the rear of the present church. He compiled a book telling how he started at Wesley Church but found them unfriendly 36 08 22e

1936 09 24

The opening and blessing of the new Roman Catholic Schools and Hall at Union Road, Cambridge, presented a picturesque spectacle of stately ceremonial. In the morning Archbishop Goodier preached following a Pontifical High Mass in the Church of Our Lady when the glory of mauve and splendour of gold vestments stood out vividly among the black cassocks and white surplices. The new buildings were opened and blessed in the afternoon whilst the Roswitha Players from London gave the first stage show at the new Houghton Hall in the evening. 36 09 24b 36 09 25a

1937 03 05

Speaking at the Zion chapel centenary celebrations the Mayor, Ald Briggs, said he'd been born in Bradmore Street 60 years ago and had many memories of the meetings in the building. He associated Zion with evangelical work and for a 100 years there had not been one instance when they'd turned to a 'stunt' to keep their religion going. All the ministers had relied on preaching vividly, strongly and in a clear-cut manner to get the response they'd hoped for 37 03 05h & i

1937 03 05

The death occurred of Mrs Ann Smith, wife of Gypsy Smith, at their home, Romany Tan in Hinton Avenue. She was associated with Hills Road Methodist Church but led a very quiet life and although

she once or twice went on tours abroad, she generally remained at home. The funeral service will be held at the house. The famous preacher is absent in America on an evangelical tour; he is at present in Charlotte, North Carolina. It is not expected that he will be able to return home until April. 37 03 05k

1937 03 24

When the Salvation Army first came to Cambridge Ellis Merry gave them what was then his wash-house in which to hold their meetings. He was one of the early sergeant-majors and associated himself with their work in the villages, using a concertina and violin to good effect. He was the first to run a penny bus, from Mill Road into town and also did the horse mail work. Until his retirement Mr Merry carried on the business of undertaker. 37 03 24c

1937 09 15

The ceremony of the enclosure of the new Carmelite Convent at Waterbeach was performed by the Bishop of Northampton in the shade of a huge plane tree. The Gregorian Chant was led by the priests while Catholic hymns were sung by the laity, numbering over a 1,000. The old convent in Chesterton Road, opened 12 years ago, has proved inadequate so a house standing in extensive grounds has been chosen. Visitors have been seeing over the building at the rate of 100 a day. But never again, except in extremist necessity, will anybody other than nuns enter the door. 37 09 15 & a

1937 09 25

Jesus Lane Sunday School was set up in 1827, later moving to King Street where many local children were taught religion by undergraduates who rose to positions of eminence in the church. A new large school was erected in Paradise Street in 1868. But times change. After the war many families have moved further out so now they have sold that building and erected a new hall in Brooks Road which will also serve as a temporary church until a new one can be built. All children between eight and 15 are invited 37 09 25

1937 10 01

Cambridge Spiritualists held a fair in the Carpenter Hall, Victoria Street, in aid of their building fund. They had bought a piece of freehold land, despite some misgivings, and were anxious to put a church on it. There was no state support. All the spiritualist churches in the country had been secured by their own efforts. "If we are not here in physical form we shall be in the spiritual body to see the church" they were told by Mr A.J. Case, the president 37 10 01f

1937 10 15

St Radegund's Hall on the corner of Brooks Road and Coldham's Lane was inaugurated by the Bishop of Ely. It is the property of the Jesus Lane Sunday School trustees and is the third building to be used for their work since its inception nearly 100 years ago. It is hoped that ultimately a new parish church will be built in this rapidly-developing part of Cambridge. The hall will be used not only as a Sunday school but also for regular church services and is a important new centre of Christian worship and teaching 37 10 15c (renamed St Stephens in 1947) [7.4] St Stephens church on site since 1937 & previously used services now as Church Hall [446.11.1]

1937 10 22

The Cambridge Hebrew Congregation's new synagogue in Thompson's Lane was consecrated by the Very Rev, the Chief Rabbi of the British Empire. Jews were to be found in Cambridge before the Middle Ages and the stone walls of the medieval synagogue were said to be still standing. Cambridge University was the first seat of higher learning in the modern world to have given Jewish studies academic recognition. Arthur Cohen was the first Jew to take up residence at Magdalene College in the early 1850s after representation had been made to the Prince Consort, the then Chancellor, by Sir Moses Montefiore. 37 10 22 (started 1935) [5.7,12.1]

1938 01 19

St Giles church stained glass window unveiled in memory Bishop Charles Gore – 38 01 19

1938 04 23

Huge crowds turned out to welcome the Princess Royal when she laid the foundation stone of St George's new church on Milton Road. The building with its 107 ft tower is visible for several miles around and has become a new landmark in the northern part of Cambridge. The ceremony took the form of an open-air service conducted by the Bishop of Ely. Practically all the local clergy came together with the Lord Lieutenant, the Mayor, architect (T.H. Lyon) and the builder (Mr C. Kerridge) 38 04 23, a & b, 25 [3.2]

1936 05 31

Churches have changed – the breaking down of intolerance - 38 05 31e, f

1938 10 13

St George's church consecration – 38 10 13b

1939 05 17

When Christ Church was established, 100 years ago, Barnwell inhabitants were described as 'heathen and dissolute'. Nelson Street was known as 'Devil Street' and there were many proctorial raids. The credit for the change was due to churches such as Christ Church and Zion who had now eliminated many of the differences between themselves. Congregations had been very hard hit by the demolition of houses in the districts but they hoped more young people would offer support, the centenary celebrations were told 39 05 17

1939 10 09

The small new Roman Catholic chapel on the corner of High Street, Old Chesterton is a corrugated iron structure but its lines are good and the interior fittings and decoration are in excellent taste. After the Reformation there was no Catholic church in Cambridge. Then Mass began to be said in the room of a house and in 1841 a small church opened in Union Lane. This was supplanted in 1890 by the fine building in Hills Road. Now there are large congregations at four Masses every Sunday and two other chapels of ease beside the one now opened. 39 10 09

1939 10 13

First vicar of St George's – 39 01 13

1940

1940

St Andrews Street Baptist Chapel Mission Hall, Cambridge Place sold [2.6]

1940 09 04

Salvation Army veterans, Gillson, recall early days of movement – 40 09 04a

1940 12 03

First marriage at the People's Mission, Abbey Walk – 40 12 03c

1941 04 17

St Barnabas church now restored with new bell – 41 04 17

1941 08

Mill Road Baptist Chapel school hall demolished by enemy action , (reopened 1949) [2.1, 2.2]

1941 08 29

Sturton Street chapel bombed. A bomb dropped within a few feet of the west wall, removing the greater part of the roof slating, opening a large hole in the external vaulting and causing severe damage to the fabric. The whole of the roof lifted and many of the roof timbers were fractured. The

building was of no use for public worship which had to take place in the Assembly Hall (replaced 1954) 53 11 18 [6.21,1.7]

1942

Jehovah's Witnesses hold memorial meeting in front room [12.2]

1943 10 21

St Andrew the Great celebrates centenary of present church – 43 10 21a

1944 10 26

All Saints church new windows in honour of womanhood – 44 10 26

1945 05 03

Jewish refugees should stay, says meeting – CDN 1945 05 03

1946 08 26

Mgr Canon Marshall resigns from Our Lady parish – 46 08 26

1947 04 15

An event of unusual interest took place on Sunday night when the congregation of St Andrew-the-Great held their ordinary evening service in the chapel of Christ's college. The organ of St Andrew's church has been out of action since melted snow came through the roof some weeks ago. As the estimated cost of repairs lies between £100- £200 and will take some months to effect, the congregation was grateful for this opportunity for a service accompanied by an organ and the College chapel was crammed from end to end 47 04 15

1947 08 09

An obituary notice in "The Times" of Wednesday began with these words: "Mr Rodney ('Gypsy') Smith, one of the most remarkable evangelists of modern times, died at the age of 87 on the Queen Mary while on his way to Florida to recuperate after a severe illness". It was I believe in 1938, a year after the death of his first wife, that Gypsy Smith gave up "Romany Tan", his residence in Cambridge, but for many years before that he was a familiar figure in the town. In his autobiography he tells how he was converted at "a little Primitive Methodist Chapel in Fitzroy Street", Cambridge.

1948

St Stephen's Church district created from parishes of St Andrew the Less & Fen Ditton [1.15]

1949

St Edward's: oak pulpit used by reformers restored to church [9.12]

1949 01 22

During the war the Tabernacle Methodist Church in Newmarket road, Cambridge, was closed and the property sold. The history of the church went back over many years, having its early beginnings in the old Fitzroy Street chapel. There were hopes that at some future date the work so nobly done by the two old chapels would be carried on. In the very near future some of these hopes may be realised, as the trustees intend to acquire the piece of land adjoining the YWCA hall and opposite the Borough cemetery, Newmarket road, for the purpose of commencing a new Methodist cause 49 01 22

1949 06 13

Society of Friends meeting house damaged by fire [4.2]

1949 10 24

Myers Memorial Hall, Thompson's Lane, Cambridge, was the home of the Cambridge National Spiritualist church was opened. The Hall, brightly decorated, lighted, furnished & heated, bears little

resemblance to the army hut it once was. The organ was dedicated to the memory of the late Mr C.W. Brown, a former member and benefactor of the church 49 10 24 [5.1]

1950

1950 05 19

During the Nazi “blitz” of 1940, members of the Roman Catholic Order The Sisters of Hope were driven from their home in London and came to settle in Bateman Street, Cambridge. In 1944 they moved to Brooklands Avenue. “So good has come out of evil”, said the Bishop of Northampton as he laid the foundation stone of the new nursing home at Hope House. This large extension to the present premises will be completed in 12 months’ time and will increase the capacity of the nursing home from its present nine patients to 30.

1951 02 16

The death occurred of Rabbi Dr David Margules. He was arrested in 1938 by the S.S. and taken to the notorious concentration camp of Dachau but fortunately released within a few weeks. The indignities he had suffered left an indelible mark on his mind, but did not change his innate kindliness towards all his fellow men. He came to Cambridge in 1941 where he became the “honorary” Rabbi and devoted himself with great zeal to supplying the religious needs of both residents and students 51 02 16

1951 03 03

University offer Stourbridge Chapel (acquired 1817) to Cambridge Preservation Society [1.14]

1951 03 07

Damage by death-watch beetles to the tower of St Andrew’s church, Cherry Hinton, is so serious that all the main beams in the tower will have to be replaced. The woodwork in the rest of the church has already been treated with insecticide but further trouble has been brought to light during repairs to tiles on the roof. They were 250 years old and had in the past, as an economy measure, been turned over and refixed instead of being renewed. Consequently they were now crumbling.

1951 03 24

The annual ceremony on top of Cambridge castle mound at 7.30 am on Eastern Sunday morning is becoming traditional. The company sings ‘Christ the Lord is Risen Today’ and then asks for God’s blessing on Cambridge and its people. The event originated with Victoria Road Congregational Church and was intended to be a simple act of cheerful witness to the Easter message. Now it is attended by people from many churches. It has been held annually for the past five years and attracts around 50 people. It is strangely impressive to look over the quiet town in the light of early morning and to hear the words of Christian faith lifting from the hilltop to be carried far and wide 51 03 24

1951 05 05

St Stephen’s services begin in Priory School [1.15]

1951 07 21

Methodism in Cambridge has suffered a severe loss with the passing of Mr Albert Endersby in his 73rd year. He had been associated with the Sturton Street Methodist Church since he was first taken there as a baby in arms and he never lost his enthusiasm for the fervour of Methodist singing and the thrill of Christian witness. He had been a steward for 50 years and was chairman of the Young Men’s Club which met at the Tabernacle, Newmarket Road, before that church was closed. He was a mattress maker at Messrs Eaden Lilley.

1952 01 18

After years of planning, working and hoping, members of Chesterton Methodist Church have at last a building of their own, a new church on the corner of Green End Road and Scotland Road, which was officially opened by Mrs Elliot Ridgeon. Now they have a light and bright building and the friendliness of the many members at the ceremony reflected joy and thankfulness at the completion of

the new church. But their struggles are not yet over for they plan to build a school hall and hope one day to build a bigger church. 52 01 18 [1.4, 1.11, 13.10]

1952 03 19

St Andrew's church, Cherry Hinton, has raised £1,700 to remedy the ravages of the death-watch beetle in their old timbers. The roof tiles have been stripped and the belfry floor renewed. Plans are being prepared for a new Parish Hall on the Mowbray Road site, a portion of which would be used as a church. Mr F. Linsey has retired from the position of organist and choirmaster after 18 years.

1952 03 31

Meadowlands Methodists in Cambridge revealed a venturesome spirit when, in driving snow, they dedicated the site of the proposed new church and offices. The simple service was conducted in the East Barnwell Community Centre & Coun Herbert Finbow cut the first turf. Mr Henry Hughes, the architect, explained a model of the new building which will present an impressive aspect when viewed from Newmarket Road. Finance will come in part from the sale of the Tabernacle Church. 52 03 31 [1.5]

1952 06 20

Meadowlands Methodist church opens, p7

1952 08 23

Jesus Lane Sunday School has been wound up. It was founded in 1827 by a group of University men distressed by the spiritual desolation of Barnwell who decided to start a "Gownsman's Sunday School". Four of them set out to visit every house in search of scholars and on the first Sunday the school opened with over 200 children attending at the Friends Meeting House. Later they erected a large new building in Paradise Street where 600 children were on the books. The 1914 war dealt the school a blow from which it never wholly recovered and in 1936 the building was sold to the Boy Scouts Association. 52 08 23 (every Parish now has own Sunday School & its work redundant after 120 years) [4.15]

1952 10 07

Cherry Hinton church held a special thanksgiving service for the completion of repair work. The tower roof has been renewed and a new steel bell frame installed; the bells have been tuned and rehung and the belfry floor renewed. All the woodwork of the church has been treated against death watch beetle and woodworm and much of the roof re-tiled. The bells then rang out for the first time in four years.

1952 10 13

Two hundred people gathered around the doorway of the new Memorial Hall of Cherry Hinton Free Church. In their midst stood the bricklayers and electricians, the carpenters and the painters who had built it. And there were the ladies who had made the tea. Churchgoers have built it with their own hands. It was a memorial to all those in the church who had played their part in the last war: on the civilian as well as on the military field of battle. It was a memorial to the living as well as to the dead. 52 10 13

1952 12 12

More than 100 people watched a key being turned in a lock last night before they entered the youngest Methodist Church in England. For that was how the Meadowlands Church, sparkling cream-and-cosy, was described at the first service to be held in the new building. Rev. W.H. Beales glanced over the congregation who had helped to pay for the cream-painted church, at the small intimate organ in the corner and the simple altar in light oak with its gleaming brazen cross & said the community of Meadowlands owed these workers a debt which could never be repaid 52 12 12

1953

Mormon missionaries tried but lack of response

1953

St Edward's Church coronation window [6.5]

1953

Cambridge Christian Spiritualist Church moves to Corn Exchange Street [5.2]

1953

Ditton Fields Free church opened, founded 1947 [4]

1953

St James' Church: first services attended by six people [9.16]

1953 05 05

St Martin's church dedicated, p7

1953 05 11

The new branch church of St Andrew's Street Baptist Church built in Dudley Road, New Barnwell for the people living on the new housing estates was opened on Saturday. The church was filled to capacity. It took about a year to build & seats a congregation of 150 in the main hall; there is a junior room for Sunday School meetings large enough to accommodate 100 children, and a primary room for the under-eights. 53 05 11

1953 11 18

Twelve years after a high explosive bomb partially destroyed the Sturton Street Methodist Church plans are now complete for the building of a new place of worship. The original chapel was built in the 1820s but in August 1941 a bomb dropped within a few feet of the west wall, removing the greater part of the roof slating, opening a large hole in the external vaulting and causing severe damage to the fabric. The whole of the roof lifted and many of the roof timbers were fractured. The building was of no use for public worship which had to take place in the Assembly Hall. 53 11 18

1954

Catholic Apostolic Church, Pound Hill ceased [2.27]

1954 03 05

The blitzed Sturton Street Methodist Church – the only religious building in Cambridge put ‘out of action’ by the Luftwaffe in 1941 – is to rise again. The Master of Downing College laid the foundation stone of a new church to be built on the site. They had begun to fear it would never be rebuilt - the War Damage Commission had given them a very raw deal, only offering £800. But had perused their resolution in the face of frustration to which all were accustomed in dealing with Government Departments and got £1,170

1954 04 12

Every seat in Great St Mary's church, Cambridge, was occupied when the Bishop of Ely rededicated the recently-reconditioned bells. A procession of bellringers, representatives of the bellfounders, the clergy, the Archdeacon of Ely and churchwardens went with the Bishop to the bell tower during the service. The bells were handed in to the custody of the Vicar to be used only with his authority. Then for the first time in two years the clamouring of 12 bells was heard over Cambridge

1954 04 26

Billy Graham visits Cambridge [4.17]

1954 05 17

An important stage of the life of the new church of St James', Cambridge will be a social to 'kick off 'the Building Fund. The first building will serve both as a church and hall and be in a central position in Wulfstan Way, almost adjoining the shops. Despite the absence of a church there is a very live congregation which meets in school hall and the Sunday School averages 145 as the majority of families in the parish have very young children

1954 09 24

The new Methodist church in Sturton Street, Cambridge was opened and dedicated at a largely-attended ceremony. It is of pleasing, simple design and replaces the building damaged by bombs in 1940. The Mayor, Coun Hallett, said it was the only here to have been completely bombed and it was encouraging to know that the congregation had come to the rescue and rebuilt it in a most impressive style. The architect, D.C. Denton-Smith acknowledged the work of the builders, Eric Kidman, Mr Linsey foreman; Messrs Cooks plasterers; Messrs Pratt builders' merchants; Messrs Scotts electricians & other associated with the re-building. 54 09 24

1955

Bishop of Ely announced five new churches that must be built to serve people living in new housing areas : St Stephens (services in Church Hall since 1937; St James first part new building dedicated 1955, Arbury Rd near East Barnwell community centre & St Martins where dual purpose building serves as church & hall in Suez Rd

1955 06 20

The Bishop of Ely dedicated the building which is to be known as St James' Church in Wulfstan Way. He said that later they would need a new church and the present building would become the church hall. It was part of the challenge of new housing estates; in St Paul's parish they were trying to build another church and there was magnificent evangelistic work in the Coldham's Lane area which rendered another one necessary. 55 06 20 & 20a

1955 11 14

Dr Billy Graham said his Cambridge mission had been one of the most rewarding of his life. It had won people to Christ, got the University talking about religion and started a revival among Christians. Every available inch of space in Gt St Mary's was filled and many had to be re-directed to Holy Trinity where the service was being relayed. It also went to the universities of Aberdeen, Durham, Manchester and four others. Now he has started his journey back to America 55 11 14

1956 01 19

The new choir vestry of Holy Trinity Church, Cambridge, was dedicated. Using materials of old Cambridge brick and stone it fits well with the existing buildings. It has folding doors leading into the older vestry, making a useful room for meetings. Now urgent repairs to the organ can be undertaken. 56 01 19b

1956 01 31

The Sisters of Saint Margaret, East Grinstead, an Anglican community founded a century ago by Dr John Mason Neale of Trinity College, have opened a centre in Huntingdon Road, Cambridge. The small number of Sisters in residence must endeavour to make their house self-supporting, in accordance with their Community's rules, and plan 'open teas' on Sunday afternoons. 56 01 31b

1956 04 07

St Stephens Church District dissolved (had been intended as an independent Parish but the abandonment of the by-pass scheme meant that its area was split by Coldham's Common & there was little traffic between the two halves. Areas revert to original Parishes) [1.29]

1956 05 01

The Christian Brethren opened their new Queen Edith Hall in Wulfstan Way. It is an undertaking of faith and cost a great deal of money but now they have a splendid position in the centre of what would

be the ultimate building estate. (Previous Sunday school 1953 & evening service since 1954 in primary school) 56 05 01 [4.21,12.7]

1956 07 26

St James church extension dedicated. 56 07 26b [2.7]

1956 08 02

The bells of St Andrew the Great, Cambridge, were there long before the present church but are in poor condition. They are individually tuneless and badly blended together. Many are ‘odd-struck’ with the clapper not placed centrally inside the bell making ringing difficult. The bears are worn and rough and the frame in which they are hung was roughly constructed and moves when ringing is in progress. Now they have been taken down to be recast and rehung and are lying in the churchyard. 56 08 02

1956 09 24

Sturton street Methodist chapel opened, replaces chapel bombed in 1941 [13.11]

1956 09 29

The new organ at Cambridge’s Holy Trinity church will cost approximately £6,000 as compared with the £300 spent on the original organ built in the 1850’s by Messrs Walker of Ruislip, who are carrying out the present installation. The original two-manual organ was rebuilt in 1904 by Messrs Bedwell of Cambridge who moved it from the north transept into the organ chamber. 56 09 29b

1956 10 22

A new library in memory of Herbert Martin Loewe, Honorary Fellow of Queens’ College and a Reader in Rabbinics was opened in the Cambridge Synagogue, Thompson’s Lane. He had worked hard for the many displaced refugees fleeing from Nazi armies and kept open house for students. The family had been honoured for their scholarship and respected for their public works and the library was a happy choice to commemorate his life. 56 10 22

1956 11 01

Great St Mary’s church has been connected with the University since very early times and was used in the past not only for religious services but for academical proceedings. Under an agreement of 1843 the University and parish met the costs of repair and maintenance, but most of the terms are now out of date. Now they are being urged to meet the sole cost of maintaining the clock and the University organ at the west end, and sharing costs of insurance, heating, repair and cleaning. 56 11 01c

1956 12 04

After 25 years and nine previous meeting places, Cambridge Christian Spiritualist Church moved into their own permanent home. The former Crown and Harp public house, John Street, can hold 100 people. The church had its beginning in July 1931 and met at 11 Ram Yard which was hit by a bomb and totally destroyed on 27th July 1942, a brass cross being the only thing saved. 56 12 04a

1957

Mormons start present Unitarian church [Mormon history]

1957 01 11

Restoration of the Round Church began in 1951; the ‘Round’ and the interior has been done, now it is the turn of the three gabled roofs. A month ago the Vicar could see the sky through the tiles of the choir roof and the church through the medieval wooden ceiling. Now work is nearly finished. Only one piece of decayed woodwork was found and no ravages of the death-watch beetle 57 01 11

1957 02 13

The bells of St Andrew the Great returned to the church after being away for re-casting and re-tuning at Taylor’s Foundry, Loughborough. The oldest was installed in 1660 when the new church was built.

They are being re-hung and a full peal will be rung after they have been dedicated by the Bishop of Ely. 57 02 13a

1957 05 20

St Andrews St Baptist Church Sunday School 150th anniversary [12.15]

1957 08 01

Two groups of Cambridge people, one small and ageing, the other large and young will always carry vivid and happy memories of Princess Margaret's visit. One are the happy band who are passing away their 'twilight years' in the comfort and beauty of Langdon House, which she officially opened. The other are the young families who live on the new housing estate at Arbury Road where the foundation stone of a new church was laid. The Princess came into their midst, laughing, joking and chatting with them, radiating her charm and personality wherever she went. 57 08 01c & d & e & f (Lady chapel dedicated 1958) [8.9,2.7]

1957 09 20

The Cambridge Christian Spiritualist Church held a service of spiritual healing at the Guildhall to commemorate their 25th jubilee. Mr Gordon Taylor lead the demonstration, treating a man with rheumatoid arthritis: when he walked onto the stage he was unable to comb his own hair, after Mr Taylor had manipulated his joints he could. He also improved hearing and restored sight. 57 09 20 & a

1957 12 02

Emmanuel Congregational church hall dedicated – 57 12 02b

1958 01 28

Six Cambridge churches are redundant, according to a committee appointed by the Bishop of Ely. St Peter's presents no pressing problem, St Michael's has for long been an embarrassment and should be converted into a parish hall, St Clement's is clearly redundant with few worshippers. With active evangelisation All Saints could justify its purpose as a parish church but St Botolph's would probably be taken over by Corpus Christi as a library and Great St Andrew's might be bought by the City to develop, they speculate. 58 01 28 [7.3]

1958 03 13

The foundation stone was laid of the new Roman Catholic Church of St Laurence the Martyr in Milton Road, Cambridge. Since the Rev Father P. Oates was appointed in 1951 he has worked hard to make the building possible. Already £4,000 has been raised, but there is still a long way to go. 58 03 13 (parish began 1947 as daughter of Our Lady) [3.1,14.2] St Laurence's church replaced little church in Chesterton High St which now moved to Ditton Lane [446.15.1]

1958 03 21

Neale House, the Cambridge base of the Society of St Margaret, was opened in December 1955. It is a small hostel for young professional or University women of any denomination and the chapel is open all day for private prayer. The Anglican sisterhood was founded by John Mason Neale of Trinity College, widely known for his English versions of Greek and Latin hymns. 58 03 21

1958 04 29

St Andrew the Great was rededicated by the Bishop of Ely after a restoration costing thousands of pounds. The church has undergone a complete transformation: the bells have been recast and rehung, the pulpit moved, the East End renovated and a new altar built. The lighting has also been modernised. 58 04 29

1958 05 14

Restoration work has been undertaken at Little St Mary's church. The interior had to be re-plastered, rainwater was seeping into the walls and new gutters needed. The roof timbers were suffering from

the ravages of death watch beetles. These have all now been completed. But the crypt is in need of restoration too. 58 05 14b

1958 06 06

Six members of the Order of the Irish Christian Brothers lived together in a Victorian house in Hills Road. There was a retired teacher in charge, a practically bed-ridden man, one who acted as a general factotum, one who did the cooking and two members they were sending to the Technical School and University. The house closed in the vacation. The Valuation Panel decided it was not a hostel but a private house, which reduced their rating assessment. 58 06 06

1958 07 12

The four bells of St Michael's church, Cambridge, which have not been rung for many years, are going as a gift to the church of St Augustine, Cashmere Hills near Christchurch, New Zealand where they will be in regular use. They date from the seventeenth-century prompting great excitement that bells of such antiquity should be going out there. Financial responsibility for the removal and shipping has been assumed by New Zealanders. The project was initiated by Michael Stewart-Smith of Fitzwilliam House which used St Michael's as its chapel. 58 07 12 [2.6]

1958 08 22

The new Roman Catholic Church of St Laurence at Milton Road is one of the most modern Catholic buildings in the diocese and replaces the existing church in Chesterton High Street. Heating is of the 'underfloor' electrical type and the lighting is also by electricity. The pews are of polished mahogany and the altar is made of stone. Much of the money has still to be raised and a local football pool is being run between the parishioners. 58 08 22a 58 08 25b

1958 08 27

Edith Morrison, vergeress, St Botolph's church – 58 08 27 & a

1958 09 01

A 70 year-old Cambridge grandmother was the oldest of 18 Jehovah's Witnesses who received baptism by total immersion at the City Football Ground, Milton Road. They radiated confidence and seemed in very high spirits as, wearing bathing costumes, they stepped into a bath which contained two feet of luke-warm water and were immersed one at a time. It was part of a three-day Assembly attended by over 700 58 09 01b

1958 11 27

Mervyn Stockwood, Gt St Mary's, appointed Bishop of Southwark – 58 11 27

1959 06 01

Meadowlands Methodist church hall stone laying – 59 06 01b [13.12]

1959 06 15

Roseford Hall, on the new Arbury Estate, is an extension of the activities of the Christian Brethren of Panton Hall. It has well equipped classrooms, all of which will be needed, for already over 200 children are enrolled for the Sunday School. An invitation to local residents to inspect the new building was met by such a large response that there was 'standing room only' 59 06 15 [12.5]

1959 07 25

St Peter's church, Castle Hill, which was founded in 1087 and has been in almost continuous use, is once again open after its recent restoration. It has been given a new stone floor, a modern simply designed altar and a clean white limewash coat to its walls. In addition the unique Norman font, bearing a merman holding his twin tales at each angle, has been moved to a more prominent position. Now they are looking for a few pews which will retain the spacious atmosphere of the very small church 59 07 25

1959 11 18

Knowledge of the Baha'i World Faith reached Cambridge in the 1800s through Professor Edward Browne, the well-known Orientalist and the only European to mean Baha'u'llah, the prophet-founder of the faith. Five years ago the first Baha'i came to Cambridge and in 1958 the community elected their first spiritual assembly. Now they have dedicated their first Centre in Gonville Place. 59 11 18a

1960

1960 04 29

A Cambridge church in the course of erection, at present serving families whose membership extends from babies in arms to septuagenarians, once again could not cope with the size of its congregation at Easter. It is the Church of St Nicholas Ferrar on the Arbury Road Estate. The foundation stone was laid in July 1957 by Princess Margaret and part of the building was dedicated in December of the following year. But the congregation has grown too large and at Easter the parish communion had to be divided into two to accommodate the 80 families who meet there on Sundays 60 04 29b

1960 06 09

Work has begun on the new church of St Martin, Suez Road, in the heart of the housing estates it is intended to serve. The present building, used both as a hall and church, was built over 25 years ago and it is time some more permanent place of worship was available for the 5,500 parishioners. The architects have made minimum maintenance costs an important feature: by using cedar window frames and alloy drainpipes, practically all outside paintwork is eliminated. 60 06 09 [2.9,10.2]

1960 10 07

Cambridge ranks with the cathedral cities as being one of the most pro-clerical towns in the country. It has been called a very spiritual place. Several clergymen speak of a continued increase in congregations with an ever-growing proportion of young people and of young parents now in the first 10 years of their married lives. A number come to church as families, the father and mother in their 30's with their children. But Nonconformist numbers are not rising with a normal congregation of 200 at Zion Church. 60 10 07

1960 11 18

The first stage of the restoration work on Christ Church, Cambridge, has now been completed. The battlemented parapets have been taken down and replaced by unbroken ones. Whilst this work was being done it was found that the main roof had to be repaired and it was decided to reslate it completely. So far £3,750 has been spent and it is estimated a further £8,000 will be required for the remaining work. So far only £1,000 had been received from appeals. 60 11 18

1961 02 04

The striking roof of St Martin's Church in Suez Road is now in course of erection. At a 70 degree angle of slope it must seem nearly vertical to the men working on the job. Such a steep roof is intended to obtain the impression of height and at the same time keep the amount of air to be heated to a minimum. Cost is also kept down because the roof rests directly on the ground. When completed at the end of April it will be a big change from the flat-roofed Church-cum-Hall which has served the congregation for 30 years 61 02 04b

1961 10 05

The Rev Peter Barratt is helping to move some of the oak pews into his new church – St Martin's in Suez Road. The church, which will be consecrated on Saturday, has a seating capacity of 400, 280 of which will be provided by the pews. Most of these, together with other chairs, come from a Liverpool firm and were brought to Cambridge by road. 61 10 05b

1961 10 09

Hundreds of parishioners and clergy were present at the consecration of the new church of St Martin's in Suez Road, Cambridge. In accordance with tradition the Bishop of Ely, Rt Rev Noel Hudson,

knocked on the door three times with his pastoral staff before taking the service. It is the first church to be consecrated in the Diocese for many, many years and will help meet the large overspill from Peterborough and other neighbouring towns which at the moment is very great indeed. 61 10 09

1961 12 18

A new vestry block, a garden of rest, memorial tablet and some new windows were dedicated at Great St Mary's Church. 61 12 18 [10.3]

1962

St Martin's constituted independent parish [10.2]

1962 02 23

Westfield House has been formally opened as a Lutheran House of Studies with an inaugural lecture by the Bishop of Gothenburg in the presence of an invited audience of senior members of the University. The spacious building on Huntingdon Road will take students from home and abroad who are preparing for the Lutheran ministry and will have a library specialising in Reformation studies. 62 02 23

1962 03 19

A chapel for the deaf and dumb in Romsey Terrace was packed with people for its ordination. The service was taken and translated into deaf and dumb language by Mr E.G. Gollup, the Missioner. More than £900 is still needed to finish paying for the timber-built chapel which seats about 60 and has an expected life of 30 years. The Ely Diocesan Deaf and Dumb Association's work began a great many years ago and a hall – close to the chapel – had been used as a meeting place. But people found it easier to pray in a church or chapel and needed a space apart where they could worship. 62 03 19

1962 04 06

The newly-formed Cambridge branch of the Gideons International held its first public meeting. Almost all the local hotels have received Bibles, as have nearly 300 school-leavers and it is hoped to cover all such youngsters each year. Young folk from Queen Edith's Chapel have volunteered to read aloud Bibles given to the Blind Homes in Glisson Road. Twenty Bibles have been given to the Rehabilitation Centre in Brooklands Avenue. The replacement Addenbrooke's Hospital will be a major challenge in the near future 62 04 06b [12.4]

1962 04 16

The parish of St George, Chesterton, has practically doubled in the past five years. Twenty four members of the congregation were engaged in welcoming new families on the new King's Hedges Estate. But the need for the appointment of a curate to assist the Vicar, the Rev J. Degwel Thomas, was urgent. Amongst those elected to the Parochial Church Council were Donald & Derrick Flory. 62 04 16a

1962 09 27

St Michael's Church in Trinity Street is "an intolerable disgrace", says the Vicar of St Mary the Great, its sister church. Now there are plans to turn it into a modern parish hall with kitchen for meetings while the east end will become a small chapel for prayer. The massive restoration scheme will cost £10,000 and to promote it the church will be flood-lit. The youth club will give a show on the lines of a 'Review' and operate a 'talent scheme' where young people will be given money to be taken away and multiplied. 62 09 27

1962 10 15

Police closed Little St Mary's Lane after they were told that a church spire was in danger of collapsing and crashing down into the road. Workmen carrying out an examination of Emmanuel Congregational Church found the sandstone spire was badly cracked and the weight was pushing the wall out. They are now removing it brick by brick using supports to stop it from falling down on them. The road will be closed for two weeks 62 10 15

1962 11 05

Holy Cross Church Hall dedicated, first stage development of new parish which grown from 700 in 1921 to 8,000, church to be built 4-5 years [8.2, 446.15.3]

1962 11 16

The population of Fen Ditton has soared in the last 50 years. In 1952 its boundaries were extended to include the Whitehill and Peverell estates and took in the Leper Chapel. Students from Westcott House had taken services there since 1922 but it could not seat more than 50. So the Priory School was used for Family Eucharist. Now a hall which will become part the new Church of the Holy Cross has opened and the Leper Chapel will be only used for monthly celebrations of the Holy Communion. Many will be saddened by the move away from the unique Normal chapel which they have come to love 62 11 16c

1962 11 24

St Stephen's is not very important as Cambridge churches go. It does not feature in guide books, visitors do not flock there and some parishioners have never seen it. 25 years ago a hall was built to house a Sunday School for the children of what was then an expanding part of Cambridge. Now a fine new building has been dedicated alongside it. But the task is not finished. One day the asbestos end will be knocked away and a proper chancel added with a vestry for the minister. Until then it is business as usual. No gimmicks, no elaborate ritual, just regular offering of worship in the simple time-honoured way 62 11 24

1962 11 26

St Stephens Church dedicated: 1937 hall built for Sunday School called St Radegund's, 1947 changed name to St Stephens; apart from five years in 1950s when became conventional district half-way to independent parish has been under Christ Church 62 11 26 [2.10,7.4]

1962 12 08

Emmanuel Congregational Church turret tower cone, which is in danger of collapse, has been removed and walls are being rebuilt. 62 12 08

1963 01 07

The new Seventh Day Adventist Church in Hobart Road was dedicated at special services held to mark its opening. Mr Roger Scott, the architect, was congratulated on designing such a 'clean, bright building full of light, commodious and comfortable' by Pastor J.A. McMillan, president of the Seventh Day Church in England. Builders, Robinson & Gimbert had ensured that the construction went smoothly and without fault. 63 01 07 (had met in Cambridge for 45 years) [11.5]

1963 02 25

German Lutheran Church inaugurated, Shaftesbury Ave (previously met in other churches) [11.8]

1963 06 10

St Peter's church spire to be restored – 63 06 10

1963 09 26

Canon Hugh Montefiore has been inducted as Vicar of Great St Mary's church. – 63 09 26

1963 12 16

Gt St Mary's holds 'beat' service to attract young [10.3]

1963 12 30

St Luke's Church installs first centrally-positioned altar in Cambridge. 63 12 30

1964 07 10

St Michael's church is a very important prototype of college chapels with much 14th-century building. The architectural interior would be improved by proposals to convert it to other uses. Some services would continue to be held. Ald Warren said he supported a grant if it was to be an ecclesiastical museum but not if it was to become a meeting room or youth centre. The committee decided a grant would not be justified. 64 07 10a

1964 10 07

The Community of St John the Baptist of Neale House, Huntingdon Road, Cambridge have been told that their temporary chapel has been granted planning permission until September 1967. It was built in 1959 by the former occupants of the house, the religious order of the Sisters of St Margaret, from East Grinstead. 64 10 07

1964 10 26

Good Shepherd church consecrated : Church of Nicholas Ferrar; area 10,000 people; 10 years ago estate announced, decided build church; land acquired 1955 for temporary church but permanent building planned; foundation stone 1957, dedicated 58 & regular use but number of worshippers too large, [8.9] Good Shepherd church consecrated – 64 10 26a

1964 11

St Matthews's Church celebrates centenary of foundation stone [7.7]

1964 11 27

All Saints church centenary – feature – 64 11 27d, e

1965 01 25

The new Mormon Church in Queen Edith's Way – the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints – is an imposing structure with a simple interior. The neat and modern design incorporates a sports room marked out with a basketball court. It was constructed using many hours of voluntary labour, many not members of that faith, and will be open to all. 65 01 25a (dedicated in 1967 when completely paid for) [11.8]

1965 03

St Edward's: first stage restoration - rededication chapel Trinity Hall [9.12]

1965 04 01

Fisher House not to be demolished as part of Lion Yard redevelopment – 65 04 01

1965 10 09

St Luke's church starts co-operation Congregational Church [10.1]

1965 11 08

Green End Road Methodist Chapel opened [13.14]

1966 01 21

Gt St Mary's holds first ecumenical service of Holy Communion [10.3]

1966 01 27

Arbury Road Baptist church opened; small chapel built on site 125 years ago – 66 01 27

1966 04 18

Hills Road Methodist chapel celebrates centenary [13.15]

1966 08 02

Franciscan Order to leave Cambridge after 27 years [14.1]

1966 08 30

St Barnabas church arson – bibles and hymn books set alight – 66 08 30, 30a

1966 09 29

St Michael's church hall opened following reconstruction of church [7.6]

1967 04 11

Quaker Meeting House, Jesus Lane to be replaced; dates from 1894 – 67 04 11

1967 06 02

Billy Graham visits [14.10]

1967 07 05

St James' church, Wulfstan Way expansion programme needed; first phase will be sanctuary nave and extra rooms – 67 07 05b

1967 08 31

Trumpington church Black Magic celebration & desecration – 67 08 31 & a

1967 09 25

Gt St Mary's multi-faith service picketed [10.3]

1968 12 01

Society of Friends new meeting house to open February [11.4]

1969 02 03

Jehovah's Witnesses start to build new Kingdom Hall in Stanley Road using volunteers; 10 years ago were 40 Ministers of Jehovah in Cambridge, now are 140; lists rooms used since 1933 – 69 02 03

1969 07 19

St James : extensions dedicated, doubles size [9.16]

1970

1970 07 29

Ely Diocesan report says four churches may close – St Andrew the Great, All Saints, St Giles and St Peter- 70 07 29, a,b

1971

Tracy Hall Cockburn Street sold [7.5]

1971 03 25

Jehovah's Witness' new Kingdom Hall in Stanley Road nearly ready – feature – 71 03 25

1971 04 24

Roman Catholic mass and confirmation service held to be held in St Edward's church for first time since Reformation – 71 04 24a

1971 04 26

St Andrews St Baptist church 250 anniversary [13.3]

1971 05 25

Jehovah's Witness' new Kingdom Hall in Stanley Road dedicated – 71 05 25

1971 09

Pentecostal Church opens Tenison Road (old chapel near Gas Works pulled down 1970) [11.6]

1971 10 28

St Peter's declared redundant (taken over by Redundant churches fund 1973) [10.5]

1972

Moslems start to meet at 175 Chesterton Road [11.7]

1972 05 13

It's whatever turns you on, man, and for 3,000 people who gathered at Parkers Piece last night the message was : "If you're gonna turn on, turn on to Jesus". The "drop your dope" call came from 31-year-old Arthur Blessitt, the self-styled leader of the Jesus People movement in America. His message was simple: "Go, Go, Go with Jesus" -and his technique was the fast-talking hard sell of detergent commercials. Mr Blessitt became known in Britain after a mammoth nation-wide walk and his followers grew from a handful to many thousands 72 05 13 [7.1]

1972 09 01

Cambridge folk have become accustomed to large scale demolition in various parts of the city, and soon yet another prominent building will disappear when the premises of the Hills Road Methodist Church are sold and taken down for development. The building is much too large; its seating capacity is 750 and the present membership is less than 200. Secondly the premises are over 100 years old, and while the sanctuary is in good condition, the premises downstairs are in a poor state and hopelessly out of date. As the adjoining premises were being developed it seemed a suitable time to sell 72 09 01 (demolished 1973) [13.16]

1972 10

St Andrew the Great proposal to be closed & sold [9.2]

1972 12 15

St James: designated parish centre of worship [9.16]

1973 01 11

St James': now full parish due growth area, 6,500 people [9.16]

1973 01 26

Cambridge Moslems will soon have their own mosque if a scheme to convert a property goes through. The City's Moslem Association have bought 175 Chesterton Road and hope to use it for their Friday prayer meetings as well as religious festivals and other meetings. A Trustee of the foundation said "We have about 70 members and we hope that it will be a meeting place for all Moslems who are living or staying in Cambridge. If we get permission for it we shall be sending back to our home countries for donations and help from there 73 01 26

1973 03 29

Christian Spiritualist church 'Myers Hall' Thompson's Lane dedicated [11.3]

1973 06 29

Latest casualty in the Hills Road office redevelopment programme is the 100-year-old Methodist Church. Demolition work started yesterday. In autumn last year many people were surprised to learn that an active church in so sound a financial position and such good repair should close its doors. But the trustees had been aware for some time that the building was just too large; it has a seating capacity for 750 and a congregation of less than 200. The congregation transferred to the Wesley Church, Christ's Pieces, or to other Methodist churches closer to their homes. The property went on the market in November 1972 73 06 29

1973 07 23

All Saints parish amalgamated Holy Sepulchre [8.6]

1973 10 27

The Dalai Lama held the attention of a 1,000-strong Cambridge audience last night while he talked for almost an hour on Buddhist doctrine - mostly in Tibetan. Hundreds of people queued for nearly an hour outside the Senate House. They filled every seat, crowded four-deep in the side galleries and were left clinging to the outside window sills to get a view of "Kundun" - The Presence. In his crimson and saffron robes His Holiness delivered his address in a casual, conversational style, occasionally breaking into English to drive home a point. After his address he walked through the Cambridge traffic to Trinity college where he was due to attend a buffet supper 73 10 27

1974 02 04

When Christ Church, in the parish of St Andrew the Less, Cambridge, was built in 1839 the cost was £3,800. On Saturday a new church- installed at gallery level in the original building at a cost of £40,000 - was dedicated. Rebuilding began nine months ago, following the sale of Abbey church hall and Christ church institute to Cambridge city council as part of the planned redevelopment of the Burleigh street area. Now the building provides a new church with seating for 465 and at ground level a hall with seating for 200 74 02 04 [8.3]

1974 04 20

Emmanuel United Reformed Church celebrates centenary [14.6]

1974 10

St Luke's celebrates centenary [10.1]

1975 09 02

Wesley Centre modernised school building, Wesley church, opens [13.17]

1976 06 10

The Vicar of the Church of the Good Shepherd, Arbury estate, the Rev Martin Suter, climbed up the scaffolding to see workmen put the finishing touches to the iron and gold-leaf cross on the top of the church. He said a prayer of dedication before joining churchwardens and workmen for a glass of beer on the roof. It was one of the last things that had to be done before work on the church is completed in time for the visit of Princess Margaret, who laid the foundation stone in 1957

1976 10 28

It is 19 years since Princess Margaret laid the foundation stone of the Church of the Good Shepherd in Arbury Road, Cambridge. At the time the first houses on the Arbury estate had been occupied for nearly four years and acres of land still remained to be built on. Today as she sees the church finally completed the changes in the area are striking. The population of the parish is now about 17,000. When the rest of the Kings Hedges estate is finished in a few years it will be nearer 20,000 – a fifth of the people in Cambridge. Houses stretch in every direction. Arbury now forms, in effect, a small town on the edge of Cambridge 76 10 28

1976 11 01

Rebuilt Fisher House opened [14.3]

1977 04 25

German Lutheran Church opened Westfield Lane [11.9]

1977 07 25

Victoria Road United Reformed Church centenary of first meeting (building started 1884) [14.7]

1978 08 08

A leading churchman gave warning on the aims of the Moonies sect, which have been operating from a terraced house in Norwich Street in Cambridge for the past six or seven years. The Regius Professor of Divinity said the movement demanded total commitment and obedience from the young people who joined & was not a Christian organisation as it claimed to be. A Unification Church spokesman said the church was far more representative of the living Christianity than many of the more traditional denominations 78 08 08 [11.2]

1979 01 05

Gt St Mary's 5th centenary appeal launched [10.3]

1979 01 08

Romsey Methodist Church in Mill Road, Cambridge will have its final service before closing down. The congregation will continue to worship in the nearby Diocesan Chapel in Romsey Terrace. After alterations it will reopen as a youth and community centre. The church buildings will become a gymnasium, the hall will remain a youth club and a coffee bar and social centre will be built onto the car park. It is also hoped to include a quiet room and tv den. The main users will be a playgroup, over-60s and youngsters. The scheme is being organised by five Cambridge churches. 79 01 08

1979 02 12

Castle End Mission celebrate centenary [12.8]

1979 02 12

Two hundred Iranian students made Cambridge demonstration history when they knelt on Parker's Piece, preyed and recited from the Koran. In what is thought to be the first political demonstration starting with a mass prayer ritual on improvised prayer mats covering the wet turf, the Muslims called upon Allah to bless the efforts of the Ayatollah Khomeini to establish a republic in Iraq based on Koranic law. They then marched to the Market Square. No incidents were reported though some confusion existed among Saturday shoppers, knowing it was the first day of Rag Week. But the slogans "Death to the Shah" and "Long live Khomeini" soon dispelled their doubts. 79 02 12

1979 07 19

St James': dedication extension, now over 200 congregation [9.16]

1980

1980 07 08

Sinclair Research, the company founded by Mr Clive Sinclair who pioneered the world's first pocket calculators and micro-television wants to buy the church of St Andrew the Great and turn it into a laboratory. They are currently researching computers and electrically-powered vehicles and are looking for premises in central Cambridge. But the church say he is unlikely to get permission because schemes for offices, shops, a language school and a mosque had already been rejected. 80 07 08g

1981 11 09

Kings Hedges Ecumenical Centre dedicated [8.1]

1981 12 07

All Saints Church in Jesus Lane, Cambridge, is to be preserved and taken over by the Redundant Churches Fund. A masterpiece of Victorian architecture, it was designed by George Bodley in the Gothic style and contains windows and wall stencils designed by William Morris. Now £100,000 will be spent on urgent repairs to the roof 81 12 07

1982 01 08

All Saints church taken over by Redundant Churches Fund [8.8]

1982 02 08

The Bishop of Huntingdon, the Rt Rev Gordon Roe conducted the opening service at the new community centre at St Andrew's Church, Cherry Hinton. Much of the money has been raised by the Vicar, Rev Chris Barber, his son John and parishioners including 30-hour sponsored croquet marathon by the church youth club 82 02 08

1982 03 01

Eden Baptist church new building opened (old which opened 1874 incorporated into Grafton centre) [13.5]

1982 05 20

The Christian Brethren North Arbury Chapel in Cameron Road started in 1971 with weekly children's services in a building contractor's site hut. The numbers soon grew to 100 and they moved to the Grove Primary School, then swelled to 200 so they used a mobile prefabricated building. Now the first permanent building will be opened by Sir Fred Catherwood. 82 05 20

1982 07 06

Moslems permanent mosque opened, Mawson Hall [11.7]

1982 07 08

St Andrew the Great: Robinson Charitable Trust offer £500,000 to turn into day centre old people; cash withdrawn after adverse article about speed with which decision needs to be taken [9.7]

1983 06 14

All Saints church in Jesus Lane, which was threatened with demolition despite being described as one of the finest examples of Victorian architecture, will open to the public for the first time in ten years. About £40,000 has been spent by the Redundant Churches Fund to make it watertight after years of rain leaking through the roof. The next project will be to clean up the interior and in particular the wall paintings 83 06 14 p10

1983 09 26

The Carioca Club in Newmarket Road is today a burnt-out shell after fire was started in three different parts of the building. The entire contents were destroyed and walls and floors wrecked. Police say an 'inflammable liquid' was poured over materials in the building to start the blaze. 'Racks' night club which has 450 members is now looking for a temporary venue. The Carioca was originally a chapel and was used as a furniture depot before it became a night-club in 1978 83 09 26 p1

1984 04 30

St Mary the Less: Princess Margaret visits mark 700 anniversary association Peterhouse [10.4]

1984 08 07

A Cambridge designer will be the first bride ever to marry in the 800-year-old Leper Chapel at Barnwell Bridge. Sarah Thornhill has always set her heart on marrying at the church next to her family home and applied for a special licence from the Archbishop of Canterbury. Now she is busy cleaning the floor, laying a red carpet and moving the altar back to make more room for the congregation 84 08 07

1984 11 20

St Andrew the Great: Privy council dismiss appeal, closed from beginning Dec 84 [9.7-11]

1984 11 24

Society of Friends opening additional meeting house due to increased attendance's [11.4]

1984 12 03

The church of St Andrew the Great officially became redundant on St Andrew's Day. Sunday services would have ceased immediately but the Greek Orthodox congregation, who use the church, protested

that they couldn't find anywhere else at such short notice. Now diocesan authorities will allow both Greek and Anglican services to continue until January. Under the terms of the closure the parish will merge with neighbouring Holy Trinity. Greeks are Parish of St Athanasius & have used church since 1968

1985 03 22

The Salvation Army celebrates its centenary in Cambridge with a programme of events at their Tenison Road citadel. The Norwich Citadel Band was pelted with mud and many of them knocked over as they heralded the arrival of the corps in 1885. In Burleigh Street a crowd knocked their hats off and smashed both ends of the drum. Police had to use hosepipes to clear the protestors.

Businessmen involved with the drinks trader and drinkers both violently objected to the Army's tee-total ideas. Churches objected to the brass bands crusading tactics which they thought lowered the tenor of Christianity. 85 03 22a [14.4]

1985 06 22

Wesley chapel: plans for demolition announced [13.19]

1985 07 05

Greek worshippers share St Clements church who fighting redundancy [7.10, 12.4]

1985 11 22

The Carioca Club on Newmarket Road is finally being demolished after years of doubt about its future. It was built in the 1870s as a Methodist Chapel but with falling attendances it was a financial embarrassment and as early as 1909 there was talk of selling it. In 1941 it became a furniture storage depot and was turned into a nightclub and disco in 1976 with a take-away kebab shop. But it was gutted by fire in 1983 and never reopened. 85 11 22

1985 11 29

Hundreds of Muslims in Cambridge regularly make their way to the mosque, tucked discreetly away near bustling Mill Road. Leading the gathering was the Imam, an Egyptian PhD student in chemistry at Cambridge University. He spoke in Arabic and English, stressing the importance of unity among Muslims. Many of the congregation were of Middle-Eastern origin but there were also several Orientals and English people. They were predominately in the 25 to 40 age range and listened intently. Upstairs a woman followed the service alone, out of sight. After 40 minutes the meeting ended, as it had begun, with a reading from the Koran. 85 11 29b

1985 12 02

After more than a century of almost unremitting dreariness the Methodist Tabernacle in Newmarket Road is being pulled down. The hideous old bulk of a chapel wore sunlight like a shroud. The foundation stone was laid in 1876 but within 14 years the congregation shrank and in 1909 there was talk of selling it. It struggled on and in 1941 was given over to the storage of furniture. Later it became the Carioca nightclub and its face daubed with appalling blue and orange paint. Worse was to come: the lower part was turned into a take-away kebab joint. Fire gutted the old pile in 1983 and its doors finally closed for ever 85 12 02b

1986 01 23

Major structural faults have been discovered in St George's Church, Chesterton – less than 40 years after it was built. The front wall is leaning away from the roof and cracks have been found on the arches inside the building. An architect's inspection has advised that the problem areas are roped off, but services are still continuing as normal. Built in 1938, St George's was the last Cambridge church to go up before the war. It was designed by Henry Lyon, the man responsible for the chapel at Sidney Sussex College. 86 01 23. May need demolition [9.15]

1986 05 02

Victoria Road United Reformed Church combines with St Luke's [14.8]

1986 07 28

St George's Church, Chesterton is crumbling so badly that it may have to be pulled down – even though it is only 48 years old. Already the front door has been closed because the gable ends are being pushed outwards, tiles need replacing and two flat roofs need resurfacing. Arches inside are cracked and the brickwork needs re-pointing. Rev Peter Tamplin says the congregation would have to raise the money for rebuilding and residents are being asked what they would like to see in a new church 86 07 28

1986 11 27

St Augustine's designated a parish centre of worship for Parish of the Ascension [7.12]

1987

Peoples Mission last service Abbey Walk after 55 years, started 1922 as breakaway Salvation Army, building passed to Church of Christ [NS3.14]

1988 05 25

Wesley Church closes for rebuilding φCEN 25.5.88

1988 06 27

Priest celebrates Latin mass at Mill Road home φCEN 27.6.88

1988 07 12

St Luke's, one of Cambridge's most prominent Victorian churches in Victoria Road, is to be converted into a community centre for the whole of the parish of the Ascension, formed in 1982 by the union with St Giles and St Peter. The adjacent United Reformed Church will be demolished and the land sold for housing. There are no plans to amalgamate the two congregations who will share the new-look church. 88 07 12a

1988 07 13

Religious faith is showing signs of growth in Cambridge. The Eden Baptist Church has doubled its congregation to 600 over 10 years which now will be split into three, meeting in different parts of the city. The Roman Catholics also report steady growth with 2,000 at mass on one Sunday. Methodist churches in Cottenham and Histon see 100 attend services on Sunday mornings and the Cambridge Christian Fellowship report numbers increasing from 20 four years ago to 300. Islam too has been making advances in Cambridge – 150 attend Friday prayers at the Mosque in Mawson Road with 700 at the Eide Prayers 88 07 13

1988 12 15

Controversial plans to turn the redundant St Andrew the Great Church into a shopping centre have been rejected. The Environment Secretary says the new centre would be an unsuitable place to house the memorial to Captain Cook, the explorer, whose wife and two sons are buried in the church grounds. The expanse of glazed area coupled with the commercial appearance of what would be behind would cause conflict to the character and setting of the building. 88 12 15

1988 12 21

'Honest' Paul Tippett was one of the first traders to set up shop at Addenbrooke's Hospital 15 years ago. Now he has taken over a new purpose-built supermarket on the main concourse. The shop has been designed to accommodate wheelchairs or patients coming in with their drip stands. It does them good to get out of the wards and back into the real world for a little while. Although Concourse Mini Market sells alcohol and medicines staff check with the patient's ward sister before supplying them. 88 12 21b & c

1988 12 28

St Andrews St Baptist church open new meeting area φCEN 28.12.88

1989 01 20

The leader of the Greek Orthodox Church in Britain celebrated the feast of St Athanasios at the Cambridge parish he founded in 1968 when he was studying in Cambridge. The congregation now regularly numbers about 40. Otherwise known as St Clement's, the church is shared with the Anglican community – 89 01 20

1989 05 12

The Union Society debating chamber may start being used as a church on Sundays since services at the 300-seat Round Church next door have become so crowded. Some worshippers have to sit on the floor and many who cannot see round the Norman pillars have to follow the service on television. Under the plan services would be held in the chamber and relayed by TV back to the church. It would be the first time the 130-year-old Union building would be used as a church on a regular basis. 89 05 12

1989 08 10

Plans to convert St Andrew the Great church into a shopping arcade have been rejected. 89 08 10

1989 11 23

Salvation Army history – feature – 89 11 23a

1989 12 15

Peoples Mission, Abbey Walk registered for marriages 30 Oct 1940; no longer used & registration cancelled CEN 15.12.89

1990 01 10

United Reformed Church, Victoria Road is holding its first major service after undergoing an £830,000 redevelopment. The ceremony to welcome the Rev Norman Setchell as its new minister will take place in St Luke's Church which has been converted to create a joint home for the URC and Anglican congregations as well as a community centre. The two churches, which stood side by side for a century, will still hold separate morning services with joint worship taking place in the evenings – 90 01 10

1990 04 27

Jesus College lawns used by Muslims marking end of Ramadan; more than 500 worshippers from around the world – 90 04 27a

1990 06 05

St Andrew the Great conversion plans shelved by Unex – may become tourist and heritage centre – 90 06 05a

1990 10 13

Cardinal Hulme attends mass celebrate centenary Catholic Church – 90 10 13a